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1957 OUTLOOK ISSUE
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# The POULTRY and EGG SITUATION

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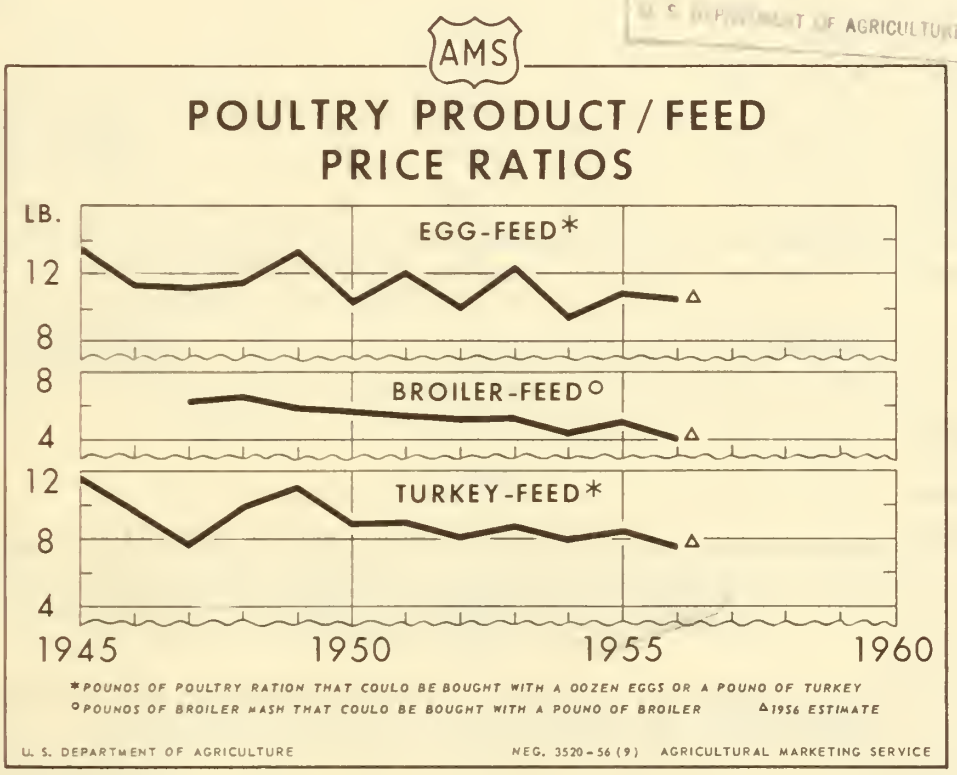


The egg-feed, broiler-feed, and turkey-feed price ratios have all been declining over the past 10 years. Over that period the profit margins in egg and poultry production have gradually been tightening up. Individual producers have reduced production costs and enlarged their scale of operations as steps to maintain labor income per flock, and have turned increasingly to feed-dealer and other credit sources offering risk-sharing plans of production financing.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

## THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

| Item | Unit | Month or date | Average 1945-54 | 1955 | 1956 | Month or date | Average 1945-54 | 1955 | 1956 | Comments on current situation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **EGGS** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Farm production | Mil. doz. | Sept. | 307.8 | 353.8 | 369.6 | Oct. | 322.2 | 385.9 | 401.5 | Likely to exceed year-earlier for next few months. |
| Average number of layers on farms | Millions | Sept. | 306.9 | 299.4 | 305.5 | Oct. | 337.7 | 320.7 | 323.1 | |
| Rate of lay per layer | Eggs | Sept. | 12.0 | 14.2 | 14.5 | Oct. | 11.5 | 14.4 | 14.9 | |
| Apparent disappearance, shell eggs per civilian | Eggs | Aug. | 27.6 | 27.0 | 26.8 | Sept. | 26.7 | 26.8 | 26.7 | |
| Frozen egg production | Mil. lb. | Aug. | 10.4 | 10.0 | 15.5 | Sept. | 6.7 | 5.3 | 7.4 | |
| Dried egg production | Mil. lb. | Aug. | 4.0 | 1.5 | 1.4 | Sept. | 2.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 | |
| Price received by farmers | Ct.per doz. | Sept. | 47.0 | 43.8 | 38.6 | Oct. | 49.0 | 42.9 | 38.1 | November and December increases of 1955 unlikely to be repeated this year. |
| Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity | Percent | Sept. | 89 | 87 | 75 | Oct. | 87 | 82 | 72 | |
| Retail price (AMS) | Ct.per doz. | Aug. | 65.4 | 61.4 | 56.8 | Sept. | 68.8 | 64.4 | 58.9 | |
| Egg-feed price ratio | Lb. feed | Sept. | 12.3 | 12.6 | 10.6 | Oct. | 13.0 | 12.5 | 10.8 | |
| Stocks: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shell | Thous.cases | Sept. 1 | 3,078 | 1,680 | 1,020 | Oct. 1 | 2,213 | 1,140 | 711 | Not declining as fast as in 1955. |
| Frozen | Mil. lb. | Sept. 1 | 183.9 | 179.9 | 167.9 | Oct. 1 | 160.6 | 155.4 | 151.9 | |
| Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries | Millions | Aug. | 66.6 | 111.5 | 134.3 | Sept. | 62.9 | 100.9 | 113.5 | |
| Pullets not yet of laying age on farms | Millions | Oct. 1 | 161.6 | 94.3 | 92.2 | Nov. 1 | 99.9 | 59.0 | 53.4 | |
| Farm price of poultry ration | Dol.per cwt | Sept. | 3.84 | 3.47 | 3.65 | Oct. | 3.78 | 3.44 | 3.53 | Close to year-ago |
| **POULTRY** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Price received by farmers for chickens, live | | | | | | | | | | |
| Broilers | Ct. per lb. | Sept. | 30.9 | 25.2 | 18.3 | Oct. | 29.5 | 22.0 | 17.6 | Farmers' poultry prices are in general the lowest since the early 1940's |
| Farm chickens | Ct. per lb. | Sept. | 24.2 | 18.8 | 14.7 | Oct. | 23.2 | 18.0 | 13.0 | |
| All chickens | Ct. per lb. | Sept. | 26.6 | 23.2 | 17.2 | Oct. | 25.3 | 20.6 | 16.0 | |
| Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity | Percent | Sept. | 96 | 81 | 60 | Oct. | 93 | 72 | 56 | |
| Retail price of broilers and fryers, dressed(AMS) | Ct. per lb. | Aug. | 51.3 | 53.7 | 46.9 | Sept. | 52.6 | 53.1 | 45.6 | |
| Price received by farmers for turkeys, live | Ct. per lb. | Sept. | 34.2 | 31.0 | 27.0 | Oct. | 34.5 | 31.2 | 25.8 | |
| Stocks: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poultry, excluding turkeys | Mil. lb. | Sept. 1 | 96.7 | 71.8 | 111.5 | Oct. 1 | 117.9 | 85.1 | 136.7 | Large increase from last year in "fowl" |
| Turkeys | Mil. lb. | Sept. 1 | 35.5 | 48.0 | 53.0 | Oct. 1 | 46.3 | 76.9 | 95.6 | |
| Broiler-feed price ratio | Lb. feed | Sept. | --- | 5.2 | 3.6 | Oct. | --- | 4.5 | 3.5 | |
| Turkey-feed price ratio | Lb. feed | Sept. | 9.0 | 8.9 | 7.4 | Oct. | 9.2 | 9.1 | 7.3 | |
| Average weekly placement of chicks in 22 important States | Millions | Sept. | --- | 17.7 | 21.4 | Oct. | --- | 18.5 | 20.6 | Continue high despite low prices |

# THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, November 13, 1956

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## SUMMARY


Production of eggs, broilers, and turkeys in 1957 is likely to exceed the record levels being established for these commodities in 1956. With the possible exception of broilers, prices for these commodities are likely to average a little lower in 1957 than in 1956.

Average egg prices received by farmers in the next month or two are likely to be lower than in September and October when they averaged 38+ cents per dozen. Thus the level at the beginning of 1957 will be substantially below the mid-January 1956 farmers' price of 46.6 cents per dozen. The generally downward trend of egg prices until spring may be interrupted during and after periods of severe winter weather, but it will nevertheless likely lead into a springtime average price lower than that received by farmers in April-June 1956, which averaged 37.4 cents per dozen. Egg production from the present time to mid-1957 will be from a flock about as large as a year earlier and one that probably will be producing at a higher rate per bird. The number of potential layers on November 1 was 1 percent below a year earlier.

Chickens raised next spring probably will be almost as many as in 1956; egg supplies and also prices in the fall of 1957 are likely to be about at the 1956 level for the corresponding months. For 1957 as a whole, egg prices are likely to average slightly below the 38 cent average price per dozen expected

for 1956. The trend toward more specialization in egg production tends to reduce shifting to other farm enterprises and thus tends to keep up laying flock replacement even when egg prices are unsatisfactory to producers.

Although broiler output in 1957 promises to be higher than in 1956, prices in 1957 may rise slightly above those of the last few months. The principal basis for expecting continued record-large broiler production, despite relatively low prices, is the widespread practice of "financing" and "vertical integration." When farmers are "financed," their risk of out-of-pocket loss from the enterprise is reduced or eliminated. "Vertical integration" is a form of organization that provides coordinated control of a broiler operation from hatching to distribution of finished birds.

Turkey prices through late summer 1957 probably will remain sharply lower than a year earlier. In mid-October 1956, the U. S. average price received by farmers was 25.8 cents per pound compared with 31.2 cents a year earlier. After late summer of 1957, however, turkey prices may almost equal the corresponding monthly prices of 1956. (Prices declined in late 1956.)

Farmers holding turkey breeder hens of the heavy types reported intentions to keep 16 percent more such birds on January 1, 1957, than a year earlier. Even if tempered considerably, these intentions indicate a larger supply of hatching eggs and of poults in 1957 than in 1956. Turkey raising also is encouraged by financing, tending to sustain output above levels that would be supported by farmers' other credit resources. A larger proportion of the crop than in 1956 will be heavy-breed turkeys, particularly white-feathered heavy breeds.

Total value of farmers' sales of all poultry products combined may be a little higher than the $3.2 billion estimated for 1956 because increases in volume and in broiler prices may more than offset the lower prices for eggs and turkeys.

## 1957 OUTLOOK

### Background

Prices of eggs, broilers, and turkeys in the fall of 1956 reflect the record large output of each of these commodities currently and the prospect for continued large supplies in the months immediately ahead. Feed prices at the beginning of 1956 were lower than a year earlier, but rose during the spring, and in mid-October were at higher levels than last year at that time. The Department of Agriculture began buying medium size eggs and frozen turkeys in late September, consigning the diverted surplus to School Lunches and other outlets.

Egg Output in 1957 Likely Record by Small Margin

Egg production on farms in 1957 is likely to exceed slightly the record output of 169 million cases expected in 1956--the margin might be almost 2 percent. In the first half of 1957, output will be from a flock almost the same as a year earlier, with per-bird rates of lay for the period probably exceeding the record of 1956. In the second half of the year, the flock may be smaller than during the same months of 1956 because of a possible reduction in number of replacement chickens to be raised. The usual year-to-year increases in rate of lay, however, are likely to offset considerably, and perhaps completely, the effects of smaller flock size, with the result that egg supplies will continue large throughout the year.

Annual rate of egg production per layer in recent years has moved upward consistently, resulting in increased egg output from successively smaller flocks. Year-to-year increases in rate of lay have been pronounced in late summer, fall, and winter. Monthly egg output through February 1957 is therefore expected to exceed corresponding year-ago production, as flock size through that month will be almost the same as a year earlier.

The 382 million potential layers on farms November 1, 1956 were 1 percent fewer than on November 1, 1955. This percentage relationship, or one close to it, is likely to continue until about mid-year 1957. During the spring months of flush egg production, a period in which rates of lay are about the same every year, the result is likely to be an egg output only barely above 1956; but in the remainder of the period, production again will exceed 1956, though perhaps by only a small margin.

After mid-year, the size of the laying flock will depend upon the number of replacement chicks to be hatched in the spring of 1957. Replacement chickens raised in 1957 may fall a little below the near-record low of 472 million chickens raised in 1956. From these 472 million birds raised, farmers on October 1 had 259 million pullets. Reflecting progressive husbandry practices, an increasing proportion of the year's replacement chicks is likely to be hatched in February or earlier. Consequently, egg production will begin to rise seasonally earlier than in most recent years.

The effect of reduced total numbers of layers late in 1957 compared with 1956 will be about offset by increases in rate of lay per bird in the last 5 or 6 months of the year. From 1951 through 1955, year-to-year increases for those months averaged 3 percent. A trend of this magnitude in late summer and fall rate of lay probably will be sufficient to offset the likely slight decline in the number of replacement chickens to be raised in 1957, particularly because of usual smaller percentage changes in pullets saved than in chickens raised, and because of greater retention of hens which occurs frequently when there are reductions in the available number of pullets. As a result, in every month except possibly March, April, and May, production of eggs in 1957 probably will be larger than a year earlier. Output in March, April, and May may be about the same as in 1956.

With increase in egg production for the year as a whole likely to approximate the annual increase of almost 2 percent in population, per capita egg consumption probably will be essentially unchanged from the 1956 level of 365 per civilian. This would be about the same as in the 3 preceding years but below the record high of 397 eggs reached in 1945 and the 1947-49 average of 380 eggs.

Feed Prices: To Spring 1957 to Average About Same As Year Earlier

Although feed prices have declined in recent months, they remain above a year earlier, and are likely to continue above a year earlier at least during the next few months. In the year October 1955-September 1956, the value of poultry ration was at its lowest in November-January, averaging $3.38 per hundredweight in those months (table 7). The mid-October value was 15 cents per hundredweight higher than that average.

In 1956 poultry feed prices rose sharply during the spring and held at peak levels during the summer before beginning their seasonal decline in September. Considering the level of feed prices this October, and even allowing for more steady prices than prevailed last spring, feed prices through mid-spring of 1957 are not likely to average any lower than a year earlier.

Demand: From Consumers, Continued Strong; From Storers, Weak

With incomes and employment expected to continue high, consumer demand for eggs and poultry meat will continue about the same as in recent years. However, demand for storage of eggs next spring may be weaker because of low profits in the past few years.

Storage demand is especially important to egg producers in the spring. In the flush months of March, April, and May, egg production is usually considerably more than could be consumed immediately without extreme price cuts. Diversion of eggs to storage in shell or frozen form serves as a price stabilizer to springtime egg prices. In many aspects, storage of eggs is essentially speculative. Its financial success depends on a seasonal rise in egg prices from the time when eggs are stored until they are put back on the market. But the seasonal rise is not always large enough to justify extensive storage; in 1954 it did not materialize at all. And in 1955, the financial experience of storers of shell eggs was favorable only for investors who held their positions until the end of the storage season. Unhedged storers of shell eggs have lost heavily this year. Storers of frozen eggs also have been confronted with only small spring-to-fall price rises in recent years. As a result, because of low recent profits, demand for storage in 1957 may be less than in 1956; operators will store as many eggs as in 1956 only if they anticipate a greater seasonal differential in egg prices than that between spring and fall in 1956.

## Egg Prices in Early 1957 Expected To Be Below 1956

The year 1957 is likely to open with lower egg prices than prevailed in January and February 1956. Egg prices in January and February 1956 were linked to those of months immediately preceding. During the closing months of 1955 a price spurt raised U. S. average prices received by farmers in mid-December to the highest mid-month level of the year (table 1). Such an unusual rise in egg prices is not likely to be repeated in the remaining weeks of 1956.

Table 1.- Eggs: Mid-month U. S. average prices per dozen received by farmers, 1954 to date

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Weighted annual average |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. |
| 1954 | 46.3 | 45.7 | 38.7 | 35.0 | 33.1 | 33.0 | 34.5 | 37.4 | 33.8 | 32.4 | 33.9 | 32.7 | 36.6 |
| 1955 | 32.2 | 39.5 | 39.7 | 35.9 | 33.8 | 33.8 | 35.2 | 39.4 | 43.8 | 42.9 | 43.4 | 47.1 | 38.9 |
| 1956 | 46.6 | 40.2 | 39.6 | 38.5 | 37.5 | 36.3 | 36.5 | 36.9 | 38.6 | 38.1 | | | |

The peak in farmers' egg prices that was reached in December 1955 was the first to occur in that month since 1950. It is more typical for the price peak to occur several months earlier in the year.

One factor in the late peak in 1955 was the operation of a $1.2 million program to export about 70,000 cases of eggs to Spain. This year a doubled Spanish program has already been completed with the procurement of about 170,000 cases of eggs. In addition, there is a USDA purchase program that from late September through mid-November has taken over 400,000 cases of medium-size eggs. However, this year purchases were spread over a longer period of time, unlike the concentrated short-time program in 1955, and prices are not likely to reach year-ago levels in the remainder of 1956.

The average price received by farmers for eggs in 1957 is expected to be a little less than the 38-cent annual average price now in prospect for 1956. Prices are expected to be lower in the spring of 1957 than in the same months of 1956. However, prices in the summer and fall are likely to be near 1956 levels, since production after late summer will not likely be up much from the 1956 record level.

Broiler Production in 1957 Unlikely to Recede from 1956 Record

Several factors in combination tend to hold broiler production at a high level, despite disappointing returns from the enterprise during the entire year 1956. These factors--which are involved in the intricate financing and organizational structure of the industry--will tend to hold 1957 broiler production up to, or even slightly above, the 1956 record output. Though 1956 output has not yet been officially estimated, recorded placements in the 12 months ending September 1956 were 23 percent above a year earlier. Production in 1955 was 1.1 billion broilers, providing over 64 percent by weight of the total U. S. chicken supply. In 1956, broilers provide 69 percent of the total chicken supply, but in 1950 it was only 42 percent.

A continuation of record volume broiler output would likely result in broiler prices to farmers in 1957 averaging not much different from the 20.2 cents per pound U. S. average for the first 10 months of 1956. The price in mid-October 1956 was 17.6 cents per pound. The average for 1955 was 25.3 cents per pound.

For many years, the typical means of producing broilers has involved "financing." The farmer had a backer, generally a feed dealer or poultry processor, who used broiler-contracting as a means of assuring a large volume for his feed-selling or poultry-slaughtering enterprise. Details of the contractual arrangements varied among individuals and areas, but in net effect financing usually shifted a good deal of the financial risk from the farmer to the backer. The farmer was protected against out-of-pocket loss, sometimes even guaranteed a payment regardless of overall profit. The practice caused farmers who were financed to be less responsive to low broiler prices than farmers who bear their own risks. From the viewpoint of the contractor, the opportunity to achieve high volume often made a nominal "loss" tolerable if it was more than offset by the markup on feed and supplies, or if it could be absorbed in the processing margin.

The broiler industry has been moving toward an even more complex organizational pattern--"vertical integration." The term is used to describe a situation in which a single coordinated management performs all or part of the functions of producing hatching eggs, hatching chicks, rearing chicks, mixing and supplying feed, and slaughtering and distributing poultry. Many of the leading firms in the broiler industry are integrated, and newly integrated organizations are created by agreements between existing non-integrated firms performing complementary functions.

In integrated firms, some of the costs that had previously been out-of-pocket costs are converted to fixed or overhead costs. Additional inflexibilities are introduced by the cumbersomeness of starting or stopping plant operations in order to accommodate varying volumes of output. Selling and distributing in an integrated organization become complicated if volume fluctuates widely. Because large organizations try to develop marketing advantages

through advertising of trade names and brands, they naturally seek to cultivate outlets that pay a premium for their poultry. A cutback in volume might risk the loss of a carefully cultivated account by not having sufficient chickens with which to supply him. It becomes an objective of an integrated firm to continue supplying its share of the market, in contrast to the actions of the producer of unbranded or undifferentiated merchandise, who feels that he can reenter the market at will without suffering any cut from his accustomed competitive price.

The advent of integration probably induces an even greater force than financing so far as continued high production of broilers is concerned. Even though broiler prices continue near "costs" of production, such firms are likely to remain in production to the limit of their financial resources.

Nonresponsiveness of broiler supply to price is not likely to apply equally to high and to low prices. In the event that broiler prices rise significantly, additional supplies are likely to be quickly forthcoming. Sufficient unused capacity exists to expand chick supply rapidly. Smaller space allowances per chick could readily increase flock size in a given brooder house. Empty houses could be brought into use, and even new houses built. For these reasons, broiler production is likely to remain practically at the point at which increased supplies cause prices to exceed production costs by only a small margin.

## Breeders Intend to Keep 16 Percent More Heavy Turkey Hens

Turkey production in 1957 is likely to hold at or above the 1956 record of 75 million birds. Though production of light-breed turkeys will probably follow the downward trend of recent years, farmers intend to keep 16 percent more heavy-breed breeder hens on January 1 than a year earlier, according to a recent 15-State USDA survey. Even if plans are tempered considerably, hatchings in 1957 are likely to be up to or above 1956.

Any marked increase in production would likely depress 1957 prices below current levels. In mid-October the U. S. average price received by farmers was 25.8 cents per pound. In California, the largest turkey-producing State, early November prices to producers in the San Joaquin Valley were as follows with year-earlier prices shown in parentheses: Heavy toms, 23-24½ cents (26½-27); heavy hens, 25½-26 cents (33).

Unlike broiler production, turkey output is strongly seasonal and production plans must be made farther ahead of marketing time than for broilers. The first breeder survey, made in October 1955, showed intentions to keep 13 percent more heavy turkeys as breeders on the following January 1 than a year earlier. (See table 18.) The number actually on hand the following January in the surveyed States showed an increase of 17 percent. Intentions for lightweight turkeys showed an increase of 7 percent a year ago while the actual development in the 15 surveyed States was a decrease of 11 percent. If farmers holding heavy breeder turkeys adhere to their early season intentions as closely this year as last year, 1957 turkey prices to producers will be below 1956 levels.

When large turkey breeding flocks are carried into the hatching season, poult output and number of turkey poults brooded is usually correspondingly large. Turkey eggs bring much more for hatching than for food. Egg producers are therefore often willing to sell eggs to hatcherymen at reduced prices. Hatcherymen in turn frequently make "deals" on poults to turkey growers. By withholding artificial illumination egg producers can defer a flock's egg production, and they may dispose of hatching-egg flocks before they have laid their last eggs; but diversion of turkey eggs from hatching outlets probably seldom occurs. If increased numbers of breeding hens materialize, they are likely to be followed by increased numbers of poults hatched and turkeys raised.

Despite two helpful circumstances which assisted in the marketing of the record-large 1956 crop of turkeys, the birds sold at farm prices generally about 5 cents per pound below fall prices of 1955. One helpful circumstance was the small storage carryover from last year's crop which buoyed prices of frozen turkeys in the first half of 1956. The other was the USDA turkey purchase program which began late in September. Because storage stocks from the 1956 crop are expected to be unusually large, the first of these two aids is not likely to hold for 1957.

Further indicators of the size of the 1957 turkey crop will be found in monthly reports of turkey breeders tested for pullorum and in the January report of farmers' intentions to raise turkeys. From July 1 to October 1, 67 percent more heavy-breed turkeys had been tested than in the same months last year, and the same number of light-breed turkeys as last year. But as only 12 percent of the 1955-56 testings had been made to October 1 last year, these early season reports are inconclusive.

Per capita consumption of turkey in 1957 will probably be record high, exceeding the 1956 record of 5.4 pounds (ready-to-cook) per person, which is 50 percent higher than the average for the 5 years ending with 1940 and 15 percent above the years 1951-55.

Fewer Light-Breed Turkeys;
More Heavy-Breed Whites

The report of farmers' intentions to keep turkey breeders emphasized the trend in favor of white-feathered, heavy-breed turkeys at the expense of light-breed birds. The most important light-breed turkey is the Beltsville Small White. Because the new turkeys are white-feathered, they can be killed young at weights competitive with Beltsvilles, without being discounted for the presence of dark pinfeathers such as would be prominent on Bronze turkeys. In actual practice, many of the white-feathered, heavy-breed hens are slaughtered at light weights, while the toms generally are carried nearly to maturity and sold in a class with heavy turkeys.

In 1956, the first year in which separate estimates are available, about 25 percent of the heavy-breed turkey hatchings through October were of white-feathered types. If half of the resulting turkeys are marketed in

competition with other small turkeys, the number of small turkeys sold, regardless of breed, will probably be held at nearly a steady level compared with last year. (A table and statement of the assumptions entering this comparison are in the Poultry and Egg Situation, 185, page 27.)

Selected statistical data in the tabulation below show the decline of popularity for light-breed turkeys and the degree to which that decline may have been offset by an increased proportion of heavy-breed birds suitable for light-weight slaughter.

| Item | Percentage distribution | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Light-breed turkeys | Heavy-breed turkeys | | |
| | | All | White-feathered | Others |
| | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| Turkey poults hatched: | | | | |
| 1954 | 30 | 70 | -- | -- |
| 1955 | 23 | 77 | -- | -- |
| 1956 (9 months) | 16 | 84 | 20 | 64 |
| Turkeys tested, July-September | | | | |
| 1955 | 32 | 68 | 23 | 45 |
| 1956 | 23 | 77 | 27 | 50 |
| Breeders on farms, January 1 | | | | |
| 1956 | 15 | 85 | -- | -- |
| 1957 (intentions) | 12 | 88 | 1/ 70 | 1/ 18 |

1/ Derived.

Income: Gross to Rise Slightly; Little Change in Net

Poultry and eggs are the third largest source of gross farm income, exceeded only by meat animals and by dairy products. As shown in table 19, 1955 gross income from poultry and eggs was $3.4 billion, and present estimates for 1956 are at about the same level. Gross income includes the value of products consumed on farms where produced. Cash income from sales in both 1955 and 1956 is estimated at about $3.2 billion.

In 1957, both gross farm income and cash receipts from poultry and eggs may be up slightly, as a consequence of sustained volume of production for the respective products and probably slightly higher average prices for broilers. These will probably outweigh the effects of expected lower average prices for eggs and turkeys in 1957 compared with 1956, with the following results for operators of the major poultry enterprises:

For producers of eggs, increased output and lowered prices may approximately offset each other in their effects on gross income, resulting in a figure similar to the $1.9 billion estimated for 1956. The record of $2.3 billion was reached in 1951 and again in 1953.

Turkey growers also are likely to find increases in volume of sales about offset by lower prices, with resulting little change in gross income from the $350-odd million foreseen for 1956, which ties 1952 as a record high. The 1955 gross income from turkeys was $329 million.

Broiler growers are expected to increase output slightly, and the average price may rise slightly from the low level of 1956. The result would be an increase over 1956 in net income as well as gross. The 1956 gross income will be about $830 million, slightly lower than the $834 million of 1955.

Although gross cash receipts may be slightly above 1956, net income may not rise correspondingly. Because part of the anticipated increase in gross is due to prospective production increases, particularly for turkeys and broilers, 1957 operations will entail use of more resources for production than in 1956. These probably will be purchased at about the same unit prices as in 1956, if not higher. Net income from poultry and egg enterprises on farms in the coming year is therefore not likely to rise significantly from the 1956 level.

## THE LONGER-RUN OUTLOOK

Despite the tendency toward over-production of many agricultural products and the present surplus of poultry products, the poultry industry still offers opportunity for resourceful individuals.

Innovations have come fast in the poultry industry, and more are likely to develop. Poultrymen who have been prompt and discerning in their choices of innovations that offered economies or other advantages, or poultrymen in especially favorable situations, have made greater profits than the industry as a whole. The great number of such unusual individual situations misleads the observer of averages or totals, who overlooks the extremes that occur within those averages or totals.

These overlooked departures from the statistical norms include many favorable experiences, offset by unfavorable ones. Because tides are not so powerful that they sweep everyone along at the same rate, discerning managers can expect to achieve a more favorable experience than the average, and thereby to succeed when industry-wide averages would seem to be unfavorable. Certain individuals will continue to do well in poultry and egg production, although the general conditions and outlook in the industry may appear less than ideal.

### Built-in Factors Toward Expansion

Within the poultry industry itself there seems to be a built-in factor toward expansion of output. Most of the innovations or efficiencies have the effect of increasing output.

In egg production, for example, a rising rate of lay per hen housed is the expression of advances in management, health practices, nutrition, and genetics. With a given population of laying chickens, the result is a larger egg production, with recent increases in rate of lay per bird -- by coincidence -- about matching the percentage increases in the human population. In addition, certain innovations in management and methods increase the number of birds which can be tended by the poultryman, and the effect there tends to increase average flock size, a trend which is another source of built-in increases in egg production.

In poultry meat production, one of the outstanding expressions of greater efficiency is in the reduced period of time required to bring a broiler or turkey to marketable weight. For broilers, this offers the possibility for four or five broods per year being produced with facilities that previously had sufficed to rear only $3\frac{1}{2}$ broods to an identical average weight. For turkeys, it has stimulated an interest in multiple broods, and has been a factor in the year-round production of those birds, again resulting in increased output. Also, emphasis on larger and larger flocks, without correspondingly increased labor requirements, tends toward larger total output exactly as is the case in egg production.

Financing and integration, described earlier in this report, are unlikely to diminish as factors affecting poultry meat production, and are promoting increased egg production as well. These practices reduce the limitation that lack of funds often imposes on the scale of operations for independent producers and creates new production facilities, thereby serving to increase both capacity and output.

Many of the above trends can be summarized as cost-cutting developments which encourage continued large production even in the face of declining prices. But some of the innovations go further, since to take full advantage of them actually requires an increase in scale and hence in output. For example, a man installing an automatic feeder may reduce the time spent in feeding and inspecting his flock by 50 percent. But if the labor was his own, he has raised his costs by the charges for the equipment, and has not created opportunity for any compensating increase in cash income unless he increases the size of his flock (or otherwise finds additional productive employment). Thus, despite the declining ratios shown on the cover of this Situation, and the tightening profit margins since the end of World War II, total output of the poultry industry has continued to rise. Further, it is likely to continue to rise.

## Rising Demand Principally From Population Increase

The rising demands that can be anticipated to balance the prospective increases in supply will come principally from the increases in population that are anticipated over the coming years. The U. S. population is expected to reach about 179 million in 1960 and 210 to 220 million in 1975, respectively 6½ and 25-30 percent higher than the 1956 figure of 168 million. An increase in total demand almost directly in proportion to the change in the number of mouths to be fed can be expected to follow.

An additional, though probably smaller, increase in demand can be expected to follow from anticipated higher average incomes and standards of living among the American public. But consumer surveys have indicated that middle-income and high-income families already eat practically identical quantities of eggs, suggesting that the opportunity to increase consumption through the effects of rising incomes is one that exists among only a relatively small segment of the population. This conclusion is probably stronger for eggs than for poultry meat.

With the above considerations in mind, and with consideration to previously-published projections for the American agricultural economy as a whole for 1960 and 1975 1/, tables 21 and 22 have been constructed to indicate a pattern that might describe certain aspects of the poultry economy of those years. Table 20 compares the projected per capita consumptions with the levels of previous years.

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1/ Daly, Rex F., "Long-Run Demand for Farm Products," Agricultural Economics Research, VIII:3, July 1956.

The basic assumptions that enter into the ultimate projections of volume of egg and poultry meat output are shown in the respective tables. A price projection, however, is lacking. The omission of a price projection is on the principle that, under properous conditions, the public will pay sufficiently high prices to induce the peacetime production of the indicated per capita amounts of eggs, chicken, and turkey.

Regardless of the actual level of average prices for all commodities, and assuming a period of relative stability for prices generally, a condition will eventually result when production capacity is built up to a point where extraordinary profits are ruled out for the industry as a whole except perhaps for relatively short periods. This is especially likely to be true in egg and poultry production, where the resources for production can readily be assembled, at a price, by drawing upon the general economy. If returns from poultry production merit it, the necessary resources will be tapped to expand capacity for poultry production.

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Table 2.- Annual egg production on farms, and rate of lay per bird, 1940 to date

| Year | Potential layers (hens and pullets) Jan. 1 | Average monthly number of layers on hand during the year | Egg production per-- | | Total egg production |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Hen or pullet on hand Jan. 1 | Layer on hand during the year | |
| | Mil. | Mil. | Eggs | Eggs | Mil. cases |
| 1940 | 393 | 297 | 101 | 134 | 110 |
| 1941 | 381 | 301 | 110 | 139 | 116 |
| 1942 | 428 | 342 | 114 | 142 | 135 |
| 1943 | 489 | 383 | 112 | 142 | 152 |
| 1944 | 524 | 396 | 112 | 148 | 163 |
| 1945 | 474 | 369 | 119 | 152 | 156 |
| 1946 | 473 | 358 | 118 | 156 | 155 |
| 1947 | 431 | 345 | 128 | 160 | 154 |
| 1948 | 418 | 332 | 131 | 166 | 152 |
| 1949 | 399 | 331 | 141 | 170 | 156 |
| 1950 1/ | 424 | 340 | 139 | 174 | 164 |
| 1951 1/ | 399 | 328 | 145 | 177 | 161 |
| 1952 1/ | 397 | 320 | 146 | 181 | 161 |
| 1953 1/ | 373 | 312 | 155 | 185 | 161 |
| 1954 1/ | 371 | 314 | 159 | 188 | 164 |
| 1955 2/ | 369 | 309 | 161 | 192 | 165 |
| 1956 2/ | 360 | | | | |

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.

Table 3 .- Composition of flocks, October 1 and January 1 following, 1931 to date

| Year | Hens | | | | Pullets | | | | | | | Pullets not yet laying, Jan. 1 following | | Total of listed categories for respective dates | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Oct. 1 | | Jan. 1 following | | Oct. 1 | | | | Laying, Jan. 1 following | | Other young chickens, Oct. 1 | | | | |
| | Number | As a percentage of Jan. 1 pullets | Number | As a percentage of Oct. 1 hens | Number | | | | | | | Number | As a percentage of Oct. 1 "other young chickens" | Oct. 1 | Jan. 1 following 1/ |
| | | | | | Laying | Not yet laying | Total | Total as a percentage of chickens raised | Number | As a percentage of Oct. 1 laying and not yet laying | | | | | |
| | Mil. | Pct. | Mil. | Pct. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Pct. | Mil. | Pct. | Mil. | Mil. | Pct. | Mil. | Mil. |
| 1931 | 195 | 80 | 156 | 80 | 84 | 156 | 240 | 34 | 185 | 77 | 122 | 44 | 36 | 557 | 385 |
| 1932 | 189 | 82 | 154 | 81 | 88 | 167 | 254 | 35 | 192 | 76 | 133 | 45 | 34 | 576 | 391 |
| 1933 | 184 | 78 | 147 | 80 | 87 | 167 | 254 | 34 | 196 | 77 | 130 | 42 | 32 | 568 | 385 |
| 1934 | 180 | 76 | 139 | 77 | 79 | 149 | 229 | 36 | 172 | 75 | 102 | 40 | 39 | 511 | 351 |
| 1935 | 171 | 81 | 136 | 80 | 88 | 154 | 242 | 37 | 186 | 77 | 104 | 40 | 38 | 517 | 362 |
| 1936 | 164 | 73 | 130 | 79 | 101 | 110 | 271 | 38 | 210 | 77 | 119 | 39 | 33 | 554 | 379 |
| 1937 | 171 | 69 | 138 | 81 | 89 | 159 | 248 | 41 | 173 | 70 | 85 | 42 | 49 | 504 | 353 |
| 1938 | 158 | 73 | 134 | 85 | 100 | 175 | 276 | 42 | 194 | 70 | 102 | 48 | 47 | 536 | 376 |
| 1939 | 167 | 69 | 139 | 83 | 101 | 186 | 287 | 41 | 202 | 70 | 111 | 51 | 46 | 565 | 392 |
| 1940 | 158 | 62 | 141 | 89 | 112 | 180 | 292 | 46 | 192 | 66 | 98 | 48 | 49 | 548 | 381 |
| 1941 | 166 | 69 | 150 | 90 | 123 | 205 | 328 | 44 | 221 | 67 | 113 | 57 | 50 | 607 | 428 |
| 1942 | 183 | 66 | 170 | 93 | 137 | 227 | 363 | 43 | 255 | 70 | 115 | 63 | 55 | 661 | 488 |
| 1943 | 228 | 71 | 174 | 76 | 124 | 269 | 393 | 39 | 282 | 72 | 151 | 67 | 44 | 772 | 523 |
| 1944 | 229 | 65 | 172 | 75 | 134 | 212 | 347 | 42 | 254 | 73 | 100 | 47 | 47 | 676 | 473 |
| 1945 | 214 | 71 | 151 | 71 | 128 | 243 | 371 | 42 | 269 | 73 | 137 | 53 | 39 | 722 | 473 |
| 1946 | 202 | 63 | 150 | 74 | 126 | 199 | 325 | 44 | 244 | 75 | 87 | 37 | 43 | 614 | 431 |
| 1947 | 198 | 70 | 140 | 71 | 131 | 195 | 326 | 45 | 243 | 75 | 86 | 35 | 41 | 610 | 418 |
| 1948 | 193 | 69 | 141 | 73 | 125 | 176 | 301 | 49 | 227 | 75 | 70 | 31 | 44 | 564 | 399 |
| 1949 | 184 | 71 | 137 | 74 | 140 | 185 | 324 | 46 | 255 | 78 | 75 | 32 | 43 | 583 | 424 |
| 1950 2/ | 189 | 66 | 141 | 75 | 141 | 142 | 283 | 46 | 229 | 81 | 75 | 29 | 39 | 547 | 399 |
| 1951 2/ | 179 | 69 | 136 | 76 | 143 | 144 | 288 | 46 | 231 | 80 | 74 | 30 | 41 | 541 | 397 |
| 1952 2/ | 172 | 66 | 135 | 79 | 142 | 117 | 259 | 46 | 215 | 83 | 59 | 23 | 39 | 490 | 373 |
| 1953 2/ | 156 | 66 | 116 | 74 | 154 | 112 | 266 | 49 | 231 | 87 | 58 | 24 | 41 | 480 | 371 |
| 1954 2/ | 154 | 60 | 111 | 72 | 168 | 104 | 273 | 50 | 233 | 85 | 42 | 25 | 59 | 469 | 369 |
| 1955 3/ | 166 | 65 | 122 | 73 | 148 | 94 | 242 | 52 | 211 | 87 | 36 | 27 | 77 | 444 | 360 |
| 1956 3/ | 150 | 63 | | | 167 | 92 | 259 | 55 | | | 30 | | | 439 | |

1/ For January 1, these are "potential layers"; for October 1, these differ from potential layers by the inclusion of "other young chickens."

2/ Revised.

3/ Preliminary.

Table 4.- Chickens raised, pullets on farms January 1 following, and chick sexing, available data, 1930 to date

| Year | Chickens raised 1/ | Sexed pullets bought as a percentage of total chick purchases | Pullets on farms 2/ | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | As reported | | As a percentage of chickens raised | |
| | | | Oct. 1 | Jan. 1 following | Oct. 1 | Jan. 1 following |
| | Mil. | Pct. | Mil. | Mil. | Pct. | Pct. |
| 1930 | 777 | | | 244 | | 31.4 |
| 1931 | 709 | | 240 | 230 | 33.9 | 32.4 |
| 1932 | 736 | | 254 | 237 | 34.5 | 32.2 |
| 1933 | 750 | | 254 | 238 | 33.9 | 31.7 |
| 1934 | 644 | | 229 | 212 | 35.6 | 32.9 |
| 1935 | 658 | | 242 | 226 | 36.8 | 34.3 |
| 1936 | 715 | | 271 | 249 | 37.9 | 34.8 |
| 1937 | 601 | | 248 | 215 | 41.3 | 35.8 |
| 1938 | 651 | | 276 | 242 | 42.4 | 37.2 |
| 1939 | 697 | | 287 | 254 | 41.2 | 36.4 |
| 1940 | 634 | | 292 | 240 | 46.1 | 37.9 |
| 1941 | 745 | | 328 | 278 | 44.0 | 37.3 |
| 1942 | 844 | 20.9 | 363 | 319 | 43.0 | 37.8 |
| 1943 | 1,001 | 17.2 | 393 | 350 | 39.3 | 35.0 |
| 1944 | 832 | 20.3 | 347 | 301 | 41.7 | 36.2 |
| 1945 | 890 | 18.5 | 371 | 322 | 41.7 | 36.2 |
| 1946 | 738 | 22.3 | 325 | 281 | 44.0 | 38.1 |
| 1947 | 719 | 26.0 | 326 | 278 | 45.3 | 38.7 |
| 1948 | 615 | 30.0 | 301 | 258 | 48.9 | 42.0 |
| 1949 | 705 | 31.0 | 324 | 287 | 46.0 | 40.7 |
| 1950 3/ | 620 | 32.0 | 283 | 258 | 45.6 | 41.6 |
| 1951 3/ | 623 | 33.0 | 288 | 261 | 46.2 | 41.9 |
| 1952 3/ | 561 | 37.0 | 259 | 238 | 46.2 | 42.4 |
| 1953 3/ | 548 | 42.0 | 266 | 255 | 48.6 | 46.5 |
| 1954 3/ | 540 | 43.0 | 273 | 257 | 50.5 | 47.6 |
| 1955 4/ | 462 | 42.0 | 242 | 238 | 52.4 | 51.5 |
| 1956 | 4/ 472 | 5/ 43.0 | 259 | | 54.8 | |

1/ For farm flock replacement; excluding specialized broilers.
2/ Laying and not yet laying.
3/ Revised.
4/ Preliminary.
5/ Intentions to purchase.

Table 5.- Chickens raised and October 1 potential layers, by regions, 1950 to date

| Year | Region | | | | | | Total, United States |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | North Atlantic | East North Central | West North Central | South Atlantic | South Central | Western | |
| | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. |
| | (a) Chickens raised | | | | | | |
| 1950 1/ | 90.6 | 119.7 | 169.2 | 63.8 | 116.7 | 59.7 | 619.8 |
| 1951 1/ | 93.8 | 118.6 | 170.8 | 65.4 | 111.6 | 62.7 | 622.9 |
| 1952 1/ | 88.5 | 107.1 | 147.8 | 63.2 | 96.8 | 57.6 | 561.0 |
| 1953 1/ | 90.4 | 106.6 | 152.2 | 57.5 | 86.3 | 54.5 | 547.5 |
| 1954 1/ | 83.6 | 107.2 | 150.4 | 57.8 | 84.3 | 56.7 | 539.9 |
| 1955 2/ | 77.8 | 88.3 | 125.6 | 50.6 | 67.2 | 52.3 | 461.9 |
| 1956 2/ | 76.7 | 90.6 | 133.6 | 52.0 | 67.9 | 51.1 | 471.9 |
| | (b) Potential layers on farms, October 1 3/ | | | | | | |
| 1950 1/ | 76.3 | 91.0 | 138.2 | 44.0 | 79.9 | 42.7 | 472.1 |
| 1951 1/ | 76.3 | 90.9 | 137.4 | 42.8 | 75.9 | 43.7 | 466.9 |
| 1952 1/ | 73.0 | 81.3 | 123.8 | 39.8 | 69.5 | 43.1 | 430.6 |
| 1953 1/ | 73.0 | 81.9 | 119.4 | 40.2 | 62.8 | 45.3 | 422.5 |
| 1954 1/ | 74.8 | 81.5 | 123.7 | 39.1 | 62.4 | 45.6 | 427.0 |
| 1955 2/ | 75.1 | 79.1 | 113.6 | 36.8 | 58.6 | 45.0 | 408.1 |
| 1956 2/ | 74.2 | 80.4 | 114.9 | 38.7 | 56.9 | 44.1 | 409.2 |

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Potential layers are hens, laying pullets, and pullets not yet of laying age.

Table 6 .- Egg-feed price ratio, chickens raised, and pullets on farms, United States, 1925 to date

| Year | Egg-feed price ratio (weighted average) 1/ | Chickens raised | Pullets on farms, January 1 following | Percentage of preceding year: Egg-feed price ratio (weighted average) | Percentage of preceding year: Chickens raised | Percentage of preceding year: Pullets on farms, January 1 following |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Lb. | Mil. | Mil. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| 1925 | 12.9 | 679 | | | 103 | |
| 1926 | 13.5 | 718 | | 105 | 106 | |
| 1927 | 13.4 | 750 | | 99 | 104 | |
| 1928 | 12.2 | 700 | | 91 | 93 | |
| 1929 | 13.1 | 751 | 253 | 107 | 107 | |
| 1930 | 13.8 | 777 | 244 | 105 | 103 | 96 |
| 1931 | 10.6 | 709 | 230 | 77 | 91 | 94 |
| 1932 | 11.6 | 736 | 237 | 109 | 104 | 103 |
| 1933 | 14.3 | 750 | 238 | 123 | 102 | 100 |
| 1934 | 10.9 | 644 | 212 | 76 | 86 | 89 |
| 1935 | 11.4 | 658 | 226 | 105 | 102 | 107 |
| 1936 | 13.1 | 715 | 249 | 115 | 109 | 110 |
| 1937 | 9.4 | 601 | 215 | 72 | 84 | 86 |
| 1938 | 11.4 | 651 | 242 | 121 | 108 | 113 |
| 1939 | 12.6 | 697 | 254 | 111 | 107 | 105 |
| 1940 | 10.4 | 634 | 240 | 83 | 91 | 94 |
| 1941 | 11.5 | 745 | 278 | 111 | 118 | 116 |
| 1942 | 13.2 | 844 | 319 | 115 | 113 | 115 |
| 1943 | 14.7 | 1,001 | 350 | 111 | 119 | 110 |
| 1944 | 11.2 | 832 | 301 | 76 | 83 | 86 |
| 1945 | 12.8 | 890 | 322 | 114 | 107 | 107 |
| 1946 | 11.9 | 738 | 281 | 93 | 83 | 87 |
| 1947 | 11.3 | 719 | 278 | 95 | 97 | 99 |
| 1948 | 9.8 | 615 | 258 | 87 | 86 | 93 |
| 1949 | 12.7 | 705 | 287 | 130 | 115 | 111 |
| 1950 2/ | 9.6 | 620 | 258 | 76 | 77 | 90 |
| 1951 2/ | 11.4 | 623 | 261 | 119 | 101 | 101 |
| 1952 2/ | 9.1 | 561 | 238 | 80 | 90 | 91 |
| 1953 2/ | 11.3 | 548 | 255 | 124 | 98 | 107 |
| 1954 2/ | 10.9 | 540 | 257 | 96 | 99 | 101 |
| 1955 3/ | 9.7 | 2/ 462 | 238 | 89 | 86 | 93 |
| 1956 3/ | 12.1 | 472 | | 125 | 102 | |

1/ Weights are as follows: Preceding November, 1; preceding December, 2; January, 3; February, 4; March, 5; April, 3; May, 1. 2/ Revised. 3/ Preliminary.

Table 7.- Prices of poultry feeds and ingredients by months, United States, 1954 to date

| Month | Index of prices paid by farmers for feed (1947-49=100) | | | Per hundredweight: Value of poultry ration 1/ | | | Corn 2/ | | | Soybean meal 3/ | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 |
| | | | | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. |
| Jan. | 97 | 97 | 87 | 3.82 | 3.80 | 3.39 | 2.54 | 2.50 | 2.07 | 4.23 | 3.92 | 3.09 |
| Feb. | 97 | 97 | 87 | 3.86 | 3.80 | 3.40 | 2.55 | 2.50 | 2.11 | 4.40 | 3.80 | 3.02 |
| Mar. | 99 | 96 | 87 | 3.90 | 3.76 | 3.42 | 2.57 | 2.43 | 2.14 | 4.76 | 3.62 | 2.90 |
| Apr. | 100 | 95 | 88 | 3.93 | 3.73 | 3.51 | 2.59 | 2.43 | 2.36 | 5.34 | 3.49 | 3.21 |
| May | 101 | 94 | 91 | 3.97 | 3.74 | 3.62 | 2.62 | 2.50 | 2.48 | 5.07 | 3.21 | 3.54 |
| June | 98 | 93 | 90 | 3.90 | 3.69 | 3.63 | 2.66 | 2.50 | 2.54 | 4.92 | 3.12 | 3.60 |
| July | 97 | 91 | 90 | 3.88 | 3.63 | 3.64 | 2.68 | 2.50 | 2.55 | 5.21 | 3.23 | 3.31 |
| Aug. | 98 | 89 | 91 | 3.90 | 3.54 | 3.66 | 2.73 | 2.32 | 2.59 | 4.92 | 3.25 | 3.16 |
| Sept. | 98 | 87 | 91 | 3.89 | 3.47 | 3.65 | 2.73 | 2.21 | 2.55 | 3.94 | 3.54 | 2.90 |
| Oct. | 96 | 87 | 89 | 3.80 | 3.44 | 3.53 | 2.59 | 2.04 | 2.12 | 3.80 | 3.34 | 2.86 |
| Nov. | 96 | 86 | | 3.78 | 3.36 | | 2.45 | 1.95 | | 3.95 | 2.99 | |
| Dec. | 97 | 87 | | 3.79 | 3.38 | | 2.48 | 2.05 | | 3.98 | 3.06 | |
| Average | 98 | 92 | | 3.86 | 3.61 | | 2.60 | 2.33 | | 4.54 | 3.38 | |

| | Price per hundredweight 4/: Laying mash | | | Scratch grains | | | Broiler mash | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 |
| | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. |
| Jan. | 4.83 | 4.77 | 4.36 | 4.30 | 4.28 | 3.93 | 5.23 | 5.20 | 4.79 |
| Feb. | 4.86 | 4.76 | 4.36 | 4.31 | 4.29 | 3.93 | 5.26 | 5.18 | 4.81 |
| Mar. | 4.93 | 4.74 | 4.36 | 4.36 | 4.28 | 3.95 | 5.32 | 5.15 | 4.81 |
| Apr. | 5.01 | 4.70 | 4.42 | 4.37 | 4.25 | 4.05 | 5.41 | 5.13 | 4.91 |
| May | 5.10 | 4.68 | 4.57 | 4.38 | 4.27 | 4.14 | 5.51 | 5.08 | 5.02 |
| June | 5.00 | 4.62 | 4.57 | 4.36 | 4.24 | 4.14 | 5.39 | 5.02 | 5.06 |
| July | 4.97 | 4.60 | 4.58 | 4.32 | 4.21 | 4.16 | 5.35 | 5.02 | 5.08 |
| Aug. | 4.96 | 4.53 | 4.57 | 4.32 | 4.14 | 4.19 | 5.39 | 4.95 | 5.10 |
| Sept. | 4.90 | 4.45 | 4.55 | 4.30 | 4.04 | 4.18 | 5.33 | 4.85 | 5.05 |
| Oct. | 4.77 | 4.47 | 4.49 | 4.27 | 4.01 | 4.13 | 5.19 | 4.88 | 4.97 |
| Nov. | 4.76 | 4.38 | | 4.27 | 3.94 | | 5.17 | 4.77 | |
| Dec. | 4.75 | 4.36 | | 4.25 | 3.93 | | 5.18 | 4.78 | |
| Average | 4.90 | 4.59 | | 4.32 | 4.16 | | 5.31 | 5.00 | |

1/ Purchased feeds at prices paid by farmers; homegrown feeds valued at current prices received by farmers.
2/ Average price received by farmers.
3/ 44 percent protein, average wholesale price per hundredweight, bagged, at Chicago.
4/ Average price paid by farmers.

Table 8.- Annual product-feed price ratios for poultry enterprises, and returns above feed costs in egg production, available data, 1940 to date

(Including data for cover chart)

| Year | Egg-feed price ratio, United States 1/ | Broiler-feed price ratio | | Turkey-feed price ratio, United States | Returns from egg production above feed costs, United States 3/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | United States * | Salisbury, Maryland 2/ | | |
| | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Dollars |
| 1940 | 11.5 | n.a. | | 8.4 | 63 |
| 1941 | 13.5 | n.a. | | 9.2 | 127 |
| 1942 | 14.2 | n.a. | 6.7 | 9.8 | 176 |
| 1943 | 14.5 | n.a. | 8.0 | 11.1 | 225 |
| 1944 | 11.5 | n.a. | 7.1 | 10.8 | 151 |
| 1945 | 13.4 | n.a. | 7.6 | 11.5 | 236 |
| 1946 | 11.3 | n.a. | 7.0 | 9.7 | 196 |
| 1947 | 11.1 | 6.2 | 6.0 | 7.7 | 249 |
| 1948 | 11.4 | 6.5 | 6.3 | 9.8 | 279 |
| 1949 | 13.2 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 11.0 | 340 |
| 1950 | 10.3 | 5.6 | 5.4 | 8.8 | 4/208 |
| 1951 | 12.0 | 5.3 | 5.1 | 8.9 | 4/349 |
| 1952 | 10.0 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 8.0 | 4/249 |
| 1953 | 12.3 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 8.6 | 4/388 |
| 1954 | 9.4 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 7.9 | 4/224 |
| 1955 | 10.8 | 5.0 | 5.4 | 8.3 | 295 |
| Jan.-Oct. | | | | | |
| 1953 | 12.1 | 5.2 | 5/5.2 | 8.[illegible] | 4/329 |
| 1954 | 9.5 | 4.4 | 5/4.4 | 7.9 | 4/199 |
| 1955 | 10.3 | 5.2 | 5/5.6 | 8.1 | 4/234 |
| 1956 | 11.0 | 4.1 | 5/4.3 | 8.4 | 268 |

1/ Simple average.

2/ From 1942 through 1948, ratios were based on price of broilers and price of feed on 1st day of month; 1949 to date on weekly basis.

3/ Per hundred layers, assuming U. S. average feed costs, egg prices, and rates of lay.

4/ Revised.

5/ Weekly average, 44 weeks.

* This series begins in 1947.

n.a. - Not available.

Table 9.- Demand factors bearing upon poultry product prices, per capita disappearance, and retail prices, annual, 1940 to date

| Year | Total population July 1, (including armed forces overseas) 1/ | Employment average number of people employed | Per capita disposable income | BLS consumer price index, (1947-49 = 100) | Civilian per capita disappearance | | | U. S. average prices | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | Ready-to-cook basis | | Received by farmers | | | Retail (AMS) | |
| | | | | | | | | Per lb. (live) | | | | |
| | | | | | Eggs | Chicken | Turkey | Eggs, per dozen | All chickens | Turkeys | Eggs, per dozen | Chickens, per pound 2/ |
| | Mil. | Mil. | Dol. | | No. | Lb. | Lb. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. | Ct. |
| 1940 | 134.0 | 47.5 | 576 | 59.9 | 314 | 13.9 | 2.9 | 18.0 | 13.9 | 15.2 | 30.1 | 28.1 |
| 1941 | 135.3 | 50.4 | 697 | 62.9 | 307 | 15.2 | 2.9 | 23.5 | 16.3 | 19.9 | 36.6 | 30.2 |
| 1942 | 136.7 | 53.8 | 871 | 69.7 | 314 | 17.4 | 3.0 | 30.0 | 19.8 | 27.5 | 45.1 | 36.1 |
| 1943 | 138.6 | 54.5 | 977 | 74.0 | 342 | 22.7 | 2.7 | 37.1 | 25.3 | 32.7 | 53.8 | 41.5 |
| 1944 | 140.3 | 54.0 | 1,060 | 75.2 | 350 | 20.1 | 2.7 | 32.5 | 24.9 | 33.9 | 51.1 | 41.7 |
| 1945 | 141.8 | 52.8 | 1,075 | 76.9 | 397 | 21.3 | 3.4 | 37.7 | 27.0 | 33.7 | 54.6 | 43.1 |
| 1946 | 143.4 | 55.3 | 1,126 | 83.4 | 374 | 19.1 | 3.7 | 37.6 | 29.0 | 36.3 | 55.3 | 48.7 |
| 1947 | 146.1 | 58.0 | 1,173 | 95.5 | 378 | 17.9 | 3.5 | 45.3 | 28.2 | 36.5 | 65.8 | 51.1 |
| 1948 | 148.7 | 59.4 | 1,280 | 102.8 | 384 | 18.1 | 3.0 | 47.2 | 32.3 | 46.8 | 68.4 | 56.7 |
| 1949 | 151.3 | 58.7 | 1,261 | 101.8 | 378 | 19.4 | 3.2 | 45.2 | 26.6 | 35.2 | 65.9 | 53.8 |
| 1950 3/ | 153.8 | 60.0 | 1,359 | 102.8 | 384 | 20.3 | 4.0 | 36.3 | 24.9 | 32.8 | 57.1 | 50.4 |
| 1951 3/ | 156.5 | 61.0 | 1,464 | 111.0 | 387 | 21.4 | 4.4 | 47.8 | 27.1 | 37.4 | 69.7 | 52.7 |
| 1952 3/ | 159.2 | 61.3 | 1,512 | 113.5 | 385 | 21.8 | 4.6 | 41.6 | 26.2 | 33.6 | 63.6 | 52.9 |
| 1953 3/ | 161.9 | 62.2 | 1,568 | 114.4 | 374 | 21.6 | 4.7 | 47.7 | 25.3 | 33.6 | 66.8 | 53.0 |
| 1954 3/ | 164.7 | 61.2 | 1,567 | 114.8 | 371 | 22.5 | 5.2 | 36.6 | 21.1 | 28.8 | 56.2 | 48.8 |
| 1955 3/ | 167.5 | 63.2 | 1,637 | 114.5 | 366 | 20.9 | 5.0 | 38.9 | 23.4 | 30.2 | 58.0 | 51.8 |
| 1956 4/ | 170.4 | 64.8 | 1,706 | 116.2 | 365 | 23.4 | 5.4 | | | | | |

1/ Adjusted for underenumeration.
2/ 1940-49, all chicken; 1950 to date, broilers and fryers.
3/ Revised.
4/ Preliminary estimates as of November 1.

Table 10.- Eggs, chicken, turkey, and red meats: Civilian per capita consumption, 1940 to date

| Year | Eggs | Chicken | | | Turkey | | Red meats, carcass weight equivalent | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | New York dressed basis | Ready-to-cook basis | Approximate percent broiler meat is of total chickens | New York dressed basis | Ready-to-cook basis | Total | Beef and veal | Pork, exclud-ing lard | Lamb and mutton |
| | No. | Lb. | Lb. | Pct. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. |
| 1940 | 314 | 18.5 | 13.9 | 14 | 3.5 | 2.9 | 140.4 | 61.5 | 72.4 | 6.5 |
| 1941 | 307 | 20.3 | 15.2 | 18 | 3.5 | 2.9 | 141.6 | 67.5 | 67.4 | 6.7 |
| 1942 | 314 | 23.2 | 17.4 | 18 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 138.4 | 68.5 | 62.8 | 7.1 |
| 1943 | 342 | 30.3 | 22.7 | 18 | 3.3 | 2.7 | 144.9 | 60.6 | 77.9 | 6.4 |
| 1944 | 350 | 26.8 | 20.1 | 19 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 152.2 | 67.1 | 78.5 | 6.6 |
| 1945 | 397 | 28.5 | 21.3 | 23 | 4.2 | 3.4 | 143.2 | 70.3 | 65.7 | 7.2 |
| 1946 | 374 | 25.5 | 19.1 | 21 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 152.1 | 70.6 | 74.9 | 6.6 |
| 1947 | 378 | 23.1 | 17.9 | 24 | 4.2 | 3.5 | 153.1 | 79.3 | 68.6 | 5.2 |
| 1948 | 384 | 22.9 | 18.1 | 30 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 143.5 | 71.7 | 66.8 | 5.0 |
| 1949 | 378 | 24.9 | 19.4 | 36 | 4.0 | 3.2 | 142.7 | 71.8 | 66.8 | 4.1 |
| 1950 1/ | 384 | 26.0 | 20.3 | 42 | 4.8 | 4.0 | 142.6 | 70.5 | 68.2 | 3.9 |
| 1951 1/ | 387 | 27.7 | 21.4 | 48 | 5.3 | 4.4 | 136.1 | 61.8 | 70.9 | 3.4 |
| 1952 1/ | 385 | 28.0 | 21.8 | 53 | 5.6 | 4.6 | 144.0 | 68.5 | 71.4 | 4.1 |
| 1953 1/ | 374 | 28.0 | 21.6 | 56 | 5.6 | 4.7 | 153.1 | 85.9 | 62.6 | 4.6 |
| 1954 1/ | 371 | --- | 22.5 | 60 | --- | 5.2 | 152.6 | 88.9 | 59.2 | 4.5 |
| 1955 2/ | 366 | --- | 20.9 | 64 | --- | 5.0 | 160.7 | 90.2 | 65.9 | 4.6 |
| 1956 3/ | 365 | --- | 23.4 | 69 | --- | 5.4 | 163.5 | 92.8 | 66.3 | 4.4 |
| 1957 4/ | 363 | --- | 24.6 | 70 | --- | 5.2 | 157 | 89.5 | 63 | 4.2 |

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Based on October indications.
4/ Estimated.

Table 11.- Eggs and poultry: Production and related factors compared with United States population, 1930 to date

| Year | Popula-tion, July 1 1/ | Index of population, July 1 (1947-49=100) | Index of poultry and egg production (1947-49=100) | Poten-tial layers, Jan. 1 | Eggs produced on farms | Chickens raised, excluding special-ized broilers | Sales and farm consumption of chickens | | | | Turkeys raised |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | From farm flocks | | From special-ized broiler produc-tion | Total | |
| | | | | | | | Young birds | Mature birds | | | |
| | Mil. | | | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. |
| 1930 | 124.8 | 83.9 | 66 | 420 | 39,067 | 777 | 435 | 298 | | 733 | 17 |
| 1931 | 125.8 | 84.6 | 64 | 402 | 38,532 | 709 | 377 | 283 | | 660 | 18 |
| 1932 | 126.6 | 85.1 | 62 | 386 | 36,298 | 736 | 394 | 271 | | 665 | 22 |
| 1933 | 127.3 | 85.6 | 63 | 391 | 35,514 | 750 | 411 | 285 | | 696 | 23 |
| 1934 | 128.1 | 86.1 | 60 | 385 | 34,429 | 644 | 340 | 282 | 34 | 656 | 22 |
| 1935 | 129.0 | 86.8 | 59 | 350 | 33,609 | 658 | 349 | 235 | 43 | 627 | 21 |
| 1936 | 129.8 | 87.3 | 63 | 363 | 34,534 | 715 | 376 | 254 | 53 | 683 | 28 |
| 1937 | 130.6 | 87.8 | 65 | 380 | 37,564 | 601 | 288 | 279 | 68 | 635 | 26 |
| 1938 | 131.6 | 88.5 | 64 | 353 | 37,356 | 651 | 315 | 239 | 82 | 636 | 27 |
| 1939 | 132.7 | 89.2 | 69 | 376 | 38,843 | 697 | 348 | 254 | 106 | 708 | 34 |
| 1940 | 134.0 | 90.1 | 71 | 393 | 39,707 | 634 | 296 | 275 | 143 | 714 | 34 |
| 1941 | 135.3 | 91.0 | 76 | 381 | 41,894 | 745 | 384 | 226 | 192 | 802 | 33 |
| 1942 | 136.7 | 91.9 | 87 | 428 | 48,610 | 844 | 442 | 245 | 228 | 915 | 33 |
| 1943 | 138.6 | 93.2 | 101 | 489 | 54,547 | 1,001 | 565 | 309 | 285 | 1,159 | 32 |
| 1944 | 140.3 | 94.4 | 104 | 524 | 58,537 | 832 | 445 | 345 | 274 | 1,064 | 35 |
| 1945 | 141.8 | 95.4 | 106 | 474 | 56,221 | 890 | 483 | 309 | 366 | 1,158 | 43 |
| 1946 | 143.4 | 96.4 | 102 | 473 | 55,962 | 738 | 374 | 328 | 293 | 995 | 40 |
| 1947 | 146.1 | 98.3 | 99 | 431 | 55,384 | 719 | 372 | 281 | 310 | 963 | 34 |
| 1948 | 148.7 | 100.0 | 96 | 418 | 54,899 | 615 | 279 | 276 | 371 | 926 | 32 |
| 1949 | 151.3 | 101.7 | 105 | 399 | 56,154 | 705 | 352 | 245 | 513 | 1,110 | 41 |
| 1950 2/ | 153.8 | 103.4 | 111 | 424 | 58,954 | 620 | 286 | 275 | 631 | 1,192 | 44 |
| 1951 2/ | 156.5 | 105.2 | 118 | 399 | 58,063 | 623 | 294 | 250 | 789 | 1,333 | 53 |
| 1952 2/ | 159.2 | 107.1 | 118 | 397 | 58,068 | 561 | 259 | 242 | 861 | 1,362 | 62 |
| 1953 2/ | 161.9 | 108.9 | 119 | 373 | 57,891 | 548 | 228 | 238 | 947 | 1,413 | 60 |
| 1954 2/ | 164.7 | 110.8 | 124 | 371 | 58,933 | 540 | 225 | 235 | 1,048 | 1,508 | 68 |
| 1955 3/ | 167.5 | 112.6 | 122 | 369 | 59,485 | 462 | 159 | 227 | 1,078 | 1,464 | 66 |
| 1956 | 170.4 | 114.6 | 4/(134) | 3/360 | (61,000) | 3/472 | | | 4/(1,320) | | 3/76 |

1/ Total, including armed forces overseas and adjusted for underenumeration.
2/ Revised.
3/ Preliminary.
4/ Estimated.

Table 12.- Storage holdings of shell eggs July 1 and production of liquid egg compared with egg production on farms, February-June, 1940 to date

| Year | Production of shell eggs on farms, February-June | Cold-storage holdings of shell eggs, July 1 | | Production of liquid egg, February-June 1/ | | Sum of July 1 storage holdings of shell eggs plus February-June production of liquid egg | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | As reported | As a percentage of production on farms | As reported | As a percentage of production on farms | As reported, equivalent cases | As a percentage of February-June production on farms |
| | Million cases | Million cases | Percent | Million cases | Percent | Million cases | Percent |
| 1940 | 60.6 | 7.5 | 12.4 | 5.3 | 8.7 | 12.8 | 21.1 |
| 1941 | 61.6 | 6.4 | 10.4 | 6.7 | 10.9 | 13.1 | 21.3 |
| 1942 | 72.1 | 7.9 | 11.0 | 16.0 | 22.2 | 23.9 | 33.1 |
| 1943 | 82.7 | 8.9 | 10.8 | 21.4 | 25.9 | 30.3 | 36.6 |
| 1944 | 88.3 | 11.4 | 12.9 | 26.1 | 29.6 | 37.5 | 42.5 |
| 1945 | 83.5 | 6.1 | 7.3 | 15.0 | 18.0 | 21.1 | 25.3 |
| 1946 | 83.4 | 9.9 | 11.9 | 16.2 | 19.4 | 26.1 | 31.3 |
| 1947 | 79.1 | 4.2 | 5.3 | 14.1 | 17.8 | 18.3 | 23.1 |
| 1948 | 76.7 | 5.7 | 7.4 | 10.1 | 13.2 | 15.8 | 20.6 |
| 1949 | 75.8 | 2.3 | 3.0 | 11.8 | 15.6 | 14.1 | 18.6 |
| 1950 2/ | 79.0 | 3.7 | 4.6 | 13.9 | 17.6 | 17.6 | 22.3 |
| 1951 2/ | 76.7 | 2.4 | 3.2 | 8.6 | 11.3 | 11.1 | 14.4 |
| 1952 2/ | 76.4 | 3.4 | 4.4 | 7.6 | 10.0 | 11.0 | 14.4 |
| 1953 2/ | 73.6 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 8.3 | 11.2 | 9.8 | 13.3 |
| 1954 2/ | 74.2 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 9.2 | 12.4 | 10.9 | 14.6 |
| 1955 3/ | 74.5 | 2.3 | 3.1 | 8.9 | 12.0 | 12.2 | 16.4 |
| 1956 3/ | 75.0 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 8.8 | 11.8 | 10.3 | 13.7 |

1/ For freezing, drying, and use as liquid. 2/ Revised. 3/ Preliminary.

Table 13.- First-of-month storage stocks of shell and frozen eggs, 1950 to date

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. |
| | | | | | (a) Shell eggs, cases | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 0.5 | 1/ |
| 1951 | 1/ | .1 | .2 | 0.3 | 1.0 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 1.6 | 1.0 | .5 | 0.2 |
| 1952 | .1 | .2 | .9 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 2.7 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 1.0 | .4 |
| 1953 | .2 | .1 | .2 | .4 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 0.8 | 0.5 | .3 | .1 |
| 1954 | .1 | .1 | 1.4 | .4 | .7 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.0 | .8 | .6 | .3 |
| 1955 | .2 | .2 | .3 | .5 | 1.2 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 1.1 | .8 | .3 |
| 1956 | .1 | .3 | .3 | .3 | .6 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.0 | .7 | | |
| | | | | | (b) Frozen egg, pounds | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 54 | 55 | 73 | 117 | 155 | 180 | 188 | 175 | 155 | 133 | 104 | 76 |
| 1951 | 47 | 31 | 33 | 62 | 109 | 163 | 190 | 191 | 176 | 151 | 122 | 95 |
| 1952 | 67 | 53 | 61 | 84 | 111 | 146 | 166 | 163 | 144 | 124 | 95 | 72 |
| 1953 | 50 | 35 | 42 | 65 | 99 | 132 | 160 | 153 | 133 | 110 | 87 | 61 |
| 1954 | 42 | 38 | 42 | 92 | 136 | 167 | 186 | 181 | 161 | 139 | 118 | 95 |
| 1955 | 75 | 66 | 63 | 84 | 126 | 171 | 194 | 195 | 180 | 155 | 128 | 101 |
| 1956 | 74 | 51 | 42 | 61 | 95 | 140 | 172 | 177 | 168 | 152 | | |
| | | | | | (c) Frozen egg, case equivalent 2/ | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 3.1 | 4.1 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 4.7 | 4.1 | 3.5 | 2.8 | 2.0 |
| 1951 | 1.2 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.6 | 2.8 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 5.0 | 4.6 | 3.9 | 3.2 | 2.5 |
| 1952 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 2.5 | 1.9 |
| 1953 | 1.3 | .9 | 1.1 | 1.7 | 2.6 | 3.4 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 2.9 | 2.3 | 1.6 |
| 1954 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 2.4 | 3.5 | 4.3 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 4.2 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 2.5 |
| 1955 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 3.3 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 5.1 | 4.7 | 4.0 | 3.3 | 2.6 |
| 1956 | 1.9 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 3.9 | | |
| | | | | | (d) Shell and frozen combined, case equivalent | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.7 | 4.4 | 6.3 | 8.2 | 8.7 | 7.8 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 3.3 | 2.1 |
| 1951 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 3.8 | 6.3 | 7.4 | 7.2 | 6.2 | 4.9 | 3.7 | 2.7 |
| 1952 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 3.8 | 5.1 | 7.0 | 7.7 | 7.0 | 5.9 | 4.9 | 3.5 | 2.3 |
| 1953 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 3.4 | 4.9 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 2.5 | 1.7 |
| 1954 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 2.8 | 4.3 | 5.7 | 6.5 | 6.1 | 5.2 | 4.4 | 3.7 | 2.8 |
| 1955 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.7 | 4.5 | 6.5 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 6.4 | 5.2 | 4.1 | 3.0 |
| 1956 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 3.1 | 4.8 | 5.9 | 5.9 | 5.4 | 4.7 | | |
| | | | | | (e) Egg solids (dried egg), pounds 2/ 3/ | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 70.2 | 76.3 | 77.2 | 79.8 | 79.9 | 80.2 | 93.0 | 103.4 | 109.2 | 111.5 | 108.6 | 99.2 |
| 1951 | 96.1 | 90.5 | 81.1 | 74.5 | 58.9 | 51.4 | 46.2 | 37.0 | 30.4 | 25.2 | 22.1 | 19.1 |
| 1952 | 17.7 | 17.0 | 15.6 | 14.8 | 14.2 | 11.3 | 10.6 | 9.4 | 7.8 | 6.4 | 5.1 | 4.3 |
| 1953 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 2.7 | 2.0 | 1.4 |
| 1954 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 3.2 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 2.6 | 2.1 |
| 1955 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 3.2 | 4.7 | 6.3 | 6.4 | 5.8 | 5.1 | 4.3 |
| 1956 | 3.9 | 3.1 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 3.4 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 5.2 | | |

1/ Less than 0.5 million cases.

2/ One case of eggs is equivalent to 38½ pounds of mixed whole frozen egg, or 10.2 pounds of egg solids.

3/ Large stocks in early years of this series reflect USDA inventories.

Table 14.- Monthly range of daily closing prices of egg future contracts on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, 1953-55 contracts, and 1956 contracts to date

| Range of daily closing prices (per dozen) during the month of: | Contracts by delivery month in which contract is deliverable 1/ | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | September | October | November | December | January |
| | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents |
| 1953 | | | | | |
| October | 43.85-45.35 | 48.90-53.60 | 44.90-51.30 | 43.70-47.65 | 42.10-44.25 |
| November | 43.25-43.95 | 43.15-43.50 | 41.85-43.95 | 41.05-43.05 | 39.75-41.40 |
| December | 43.55-44.60 | 43.15-44.40 | | 42.10-47.75 | 40.15-42.25 |
| 1954 | | | | | |
| January | 44.20-46.70 | 44.20-46.55 | | | 41.75-47.60B |
| February | 46.10-47.55 | 45.70-47.35 | | | |
| March | 42.60-46.95 | 42.10-46.50 | | | |
| April | 40.80-43.45 | 40.40-42.85 | 39.75-41.25 | | |
| May | 40.60-42.10 | 40.05-41.75 | 39.50-40.60 | | |
| June | 38.00-41.35 | 37.95-41.30 | 37.30-40.25 | | |
| July | 38.10-42.75 | 38.00-42.80 | 37.40-42.35 | 37.15-41.30 | |
| August | 31.05-38.45 | 32.05-38.95 | 32.90-38.50 | 33.25-37.50B | |
| September | 27.00A-30.90 | 26.20-31.65 | 27.25-32.45 | 28.20-33.00 | 28.20-31.50 |
| October | 36.10B-38.65 | 24.25-27.35 | 25.30-28.40 | 25.90-29.30 | 25.90-29.25 |
| November | 37.40-39.00 | 37.45-38.40 | 25.65-29.60 | 26.20-29.65 | 26.20-28.45 |
| December | 36.30-38.75 | 36.30-38.75 | | 35.45-27.10 | 25.15-27.80 |
| 1955 | | | | | |
| January | 38.00-43.85 | 38.00-43.30 | | | 27.55-31.85 |
| February | 42.60-47.35 | 42.65-47.30 | | | |
| March | 42.30-46.55 | 42.20-46.95 | | | |
| April | 42.00-44.90 | 41.80-44.95 | 41.55-44.80 | | |
| May | 40.20-42.75 | 40.70-42.90 | 41.50-43.25 | | |
| June | 40.90-42.65 | 41.55-43.35 | 42.50-44.10 | 42.40-44.40 | |
| July | 35.25-41.95 | 36.10-42.70 | 37.05-43.55 | 38.10-43.75 | 36.85-43.25 |
| August | 37.15-40.45 | 37.35-41.45 | 38.35-42.35 | 38.50-42.50 | 38.30-41.00 |
| September | 38.30-41.35 | 38.65-42.45 | 39.85-43.40 | 39.90-43.85 | 38.50-42.25 |
| October | 40.20-43.10B | 31.10-37.65 | 29.35-39.15 | 30.40-40.05 | 30.25-38.50 |
| November | 40.40-42.95 | 40.25-43.00 | 28.85-35.75 | 30.25-39.25 | 30.20-37.30 |
| December | 42.55-46.70 | 42.85-46.25 | | 40.50-45.65 | 38.05-46.55 |
| 1956 | | | | | |
| January | 43.15-46.20 | 42.80-46.05 | | | 43.20-46.45 |
| February | 43.15-44.85 | 42.65-44.65 | | | |
| March | 42.15-44.50 | 41.75-44.25 | | | |
| April | 42.65-44.35 | 42.15-43.90 | 41.50-43.05 | | |
| May | 41.70-45.00 | 41.70-44.65 | 41.40-44.15 | 40.95-43.75 | |
| June | 38.25-42.60 | 38.05-42.70 | 38.05-42.65 | 38.05-42.65 | |
| July | 37.35-40.60 | 37.45-40.80 | 37.40-40.80 | 37.45-40.75 | 38.05-39.95 |
| August | 30.20-35.60 | 31.00-36.40 | 31.65-36.45 | 32.05-36.30 | 32.10-35.80 |
| September | 31.95-36.55 | 32.65-37.05 | 33.10-37.15 | 33.45-36.55 | 32.80-35.65 |
| October | 38.60-39.50 | 30.55-34.45 | 31.30-35.25 | 32.15-35.30 | 32.15-34.60 |
| November 2/ | 38.40 | 38.30 | 29.25 | 29.90 | 30.15 |

1/ Gaps between brackets, or in series of numbers, denote change in year of contract.
2/ Closing price as of November 8, 1956.
A - Asked. B - Bid.

Table 15.- Mid-month average prices received by farmers for poultry products, 1950 to date

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Weighted average |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | |
| | | | | | | (a) Eggs, per dozen | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 31.2 | 29.6 | 31.6 | 30.9 | 29.6 | 30.1 | 34.3 | 38.0 | 40.4 | 43.2 | 45.8 | 57.7 | 36.3 |
| 1951 | 42.6 | 41.4 | 43.7 | 43.2 | 45.2 | 44.7 | 46.6 | 49.6 | 55.0 | 55.6 | 56.5 | 51.1 | 47.8 |
| 1952 | 40.5 | 34.7 | 34.0 | 35.2 | 34.2 | 35.7 | 43.3 | 48.2 | 48.7 | 50.3 | 51.9 | 46.6 | 41.6 |
| 1953 | 45.8 | 42.0 | 44.7 | 45.5 | 45.9 | 45.7 | 47.7 | 50.2 | 51.4 | 53.2 | 49.7 | 48.5 | 47.7 |
| 1954 | 46.3 | 45.7 | 38.7 | 35.0 | 33.1 | 33.0 | 34.5 | 37.4 | 33.8 | 32.4 | 33.9 | 32.7 | 36.6 |
| 1955 | 32.2 | 39.5 | 39.7 | 35.9 | 33.8 | 33.8 | 35.2 | 39.4 | 43.8 | 42.9 | 43.4 | 47.1 | 38.9 |
| 1956 | 46.6 | 40.2 | 39.6 | 38.5 | 37.5 | 36.3 | 36.5 | 36.9 | 38.6 | 38.1 | | | |
| | | | | | | (b) Commercial broilers, per pound | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 21.3 | 26.1 | 29.6 | 28.9 | 27.7 | 27.1 | 29.6 | 31.0 | 29.9 | 26.5 | 25.7 | 24.2 | 27.4 |
| 1951 | 26.4 | 29.2 | 30.8 | 30.5 | 28.8 | 29.7 | 29.3 | 29.7 | 29.1 | 26.4 | 25.7 | 25.7 | 28.6 |
| 1952 | 28.8 | 29.3 | 28.1 | 27.1 | 25.3 | 26.8 | 29.3 | 31.0 | 31.3 | 29.1 | 31.6 | 29.7 | 28.8 |
| 1953 | 27.9 | 27.7 | 28.1 | 28.0 | 27.2 | 26.2 | 28.3 | 27.9 | 27.1 | 26.7 | 26.0 | 23.2 | 27.1 |
| 1954 | 24.2 | 22.6 | 23.5 | 24.3 | 23.7 | 24.4 | 25.4 | 24.9 | 23.0 | 21.0 | 20.1 | 19.2 | 23.1 |
| 1955 | 24.4 | 25.4 | 29.7 | 28.4 | 27.0 | 27.2 | 26.5 | 26.9 | 25.2 | 22.0 | 21.2 | 19.4 | 25.2 |
| 1956 | 20.3 | 21.4 | 21.9 | 20.5 | 21.1 | 19.9 | 21.7 | 19.6 | 18.3 | 17.6 | | | |
| | | | | | | (c) Farm chickens, per pound | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 21.5 | 21.5 | 23.3 | 22.5 | 21.8 | 21.0 | 22.3 | 24.1 | 22.9 | 21.3 | 22.0 | 22.6 | 22.3 |
| 1951 | 24.9 | 27.1 | 28.7 | 29.0 | 29.3 | 27.0 | 26.4 | 24.6 | 23.9 | 23.0 | 22.6 | 23.3 | 25.1 |
| 1952 | 25.0 | 24.9 | 24.9 | 24.0 | 22.5 | 21.7 | 21.8 | 22.4 | 21.9 | 20.6 | 21.6 | 22.3 | 22.3 |
| 1953 | 23.2 | 24.0 | 25.2 | 24.9 | 24.8 | 22.9 | 23.0 | 22.7 | 21.6 | 20.2 | 20.8 | 21.0 | 22.3 |
| 1954 | 21.3 | 21.6 | 22.6 | 21.1 | 19.7 | 18.6 | 16.5 | 16.8 | 15.3 | 14.0 | 14.5 | 14.3 | 16.8 |
| 1955 | 15.4 | 18.6 | 20.9 | 20.3 | 20.2 | 19.7 | 19.3 | 18.4 | 18.8 | 18.0 | 17.5 | 17.9 | 18.6 |
| 1956 | 19.3 | 19.9 | 20.1 | 19.7 | 19.2 | 17.9 | 16.4 | 16.2 | 14.7 | 13.0 | | | |
| | | | | | | (d) All chickens, per pound | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 21.3 | 24.6 | 27.4 | 26.3 | 25.1 | 24.1 | 26.0 | 27.0 | 25.7 | 23.3 | 23.7 | 23.5 | 24.9 |
| 1951 | 25.9 | 28.5 | 30.2 | 20.0 | 29.0 | 28.6 | 28.1 | 27.2 | 26.4 | 24.5 | 24.2 | 24.7 | 27.1 |
| 1952 | 27.8 | 28.2 | 27.4 | 26.2 | 24.4 | 24.9 | 26.4 | 27.0 | 26.3 | 24.5 | 26.7 | 26.7 | 26.2 |
| 1953 | 26.8 | 26.9 | 27.4 | 27.3 | 26.5 | 25.2 | 26.4 | 25.7 | 24.2 | 23.4 | 23.5 | 22.5 | 25.3 |
| 1954 | 23.4 | 22.4 | 23.3 | 23.5 | 22.7 | 22.7 | 22.7 | 22.0 | 19.5 | 17.8 | 17.7 | 17.4 | 21.1 |
| 1955 | 22.0 | 23.9 | 27.8 | 26.8 | 25.6 | 25.7 | 24.7 | 24.4 | 23.2 | 20.6 | 19.8 | 19.0 | 23.4 |
| 1956 | 20.1 | 21.0 | 21.6 | 20.3 | 20.7 | 19.5 | 20.5 | 18.7 | 17.2 | 16.0 | | | |
| | | | | | | (e) Turkeys, per pound | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 32.5 | 31.6 | 31.6 | 30.1 | 27.4 | 28.8 | 30.5 | 33.9 | 33.4 | 31.7 | 32.5 | 34.3 | 32.8 |
| 1951 | 33.9 | 34.5 | 35.3 | 35.3 | 35.4 | 35.8 | 35.3 | 35.3 | 36.3 | 35.8 | 37.8 | 39.6 | 37.4 |
| 1952 | 37.1 | 36.1 | 34.5 | 34.5 | 32.0 | 32.3 | 31.9 | 32.6 | 33.2 | 32.9 | 33.7 | 34.6 | 33.6 |
| 1953 | 33.6 | 33.3 | 33.6 | 33.3 | 32.5 | 31.7 | 32.3 | 32.7 | 32.4 | 33.3 | 33.9 | 34.5 | 33.6 |
| 1954 | 33.2 | 33.9 | 33.6 | 33.3 | 31.0 | 31.3 | 28.6 | 27.8 | 27.6 | 27.0 | 28.5 | 29.6 | 28.8 |
| 1955 | 27.4 | 29.5 | 30.4 | 29.7 | 28.9 | 29.4 | 29.6 | 29.5 | 31.0 | 31.2 | 29.8 | 30.5 | 30.2 |
| 1956 | 31.0 | 31.4 | 32.1 | 30.9 | 30.8 | 29.8 | 28.9 | 28.7 | 27.0 | 25.8 | | | |

Table 16.- Turkey prices, per pound: Selected series, October 1951 to date

| Season | October | November | December | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents |
| | | | | | (a) Average farm price, mid-month (live), United States | | | | | | | |
| 1952-53 | 32.9 | 33.7 | 34.6 | 33.6 | 33.3 | 33.6 | 33.3 | 32.5 | 31.7 | 32.3 | 32.7 | 32.4 |
| 1953-54 | 33.3 | 33.9 | 34.5 | 33.2 | 33.9 | 33.6 | 33.3 | 31.0 | 31.3 | 28.6 | 27.8 | 27.6 |
| 1954-55 | 27.0 | 28.5 | 29.6 | 27.4 | 29.5 | 30.4 | 29.7 | 28.9 | 29.4 | 29.6 | 29.5 | 31.0 |
| 1955-56 | 31.2 | 29.8 | 30.5 | 31.0 | 31.4 | 32.1 | 30.9 | 30.8 | 29.8 | 28.9 | 28.7 | 27.0 |
| 1956-57 | 25.8 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (b) Live, heavy type young toms, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/ | | | | | | | |
| 1952-53 | 28-29 | 29-30 | 29½-30 | 28½-29½ | --- | --- | --- | 29 | --- | --- | 29½-31 | 29-30 |
| 1953-54 | 28-29 | 28-29 | 28-29 | 29-30 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 25-26 | 24-25 | 24-25 | 24 |
| 1954-55 | 22-22½ | 23-24 | 23-24 | 21½-23 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 25-26 | 28 | 27 | 27-29½ |
| 1955-56 | 29-30 | 26½-27 | 26½-27 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 30-33 | 28 | 25-26 | 24½-26 |
| 1956-57 | 25-25½ | 23-24½ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (c) Live, heavy type hens, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/ | | | | | | | |
| 1952-53 | 32-32½ | 33 | 33½-34 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 29 | --- | --- | 32 | 32 |
| 1953-54 | 33 | 35-35½ | 36½-37½ | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 26 | 28 | 28 | 28 |
| 1954-55 | 28 | 31-32 | 31½-32 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 25-26 | 30 | 29 | 30½-31 |
| 1955-56 | 34½-35 | 33 | 31½-32½ | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 31 | 27-28 | 26½ | 27½-28 |
| 1956-57 | 27-27½ | 25½-26 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (d) Frozen eviscerated toms, heaviest weights quoted, New York City, first day of month 1/ | | | | | | | |
| 1952-53 | 58-60 | 54-58 | 53-57 | 53-55 | 55-56½ | 53-55 | 52-55 | 56-58½ | 56-60 | 55-59 | 56-59 | 55-57 |
| 1953-54 | 55-59 | 53-56 | 51½-54 | 51-54 | 51-54 | 51½-54½ | 49½-53½ | 49-53½ | 50-52 | 46½-49 | 47-49 | 47-49 |
| 1954-55 | 46½-49 | 44-48 | 43½-46 | 43-45 | 44-48 | 44½-48 | 46-49 | 47½-50½ | 48½-52½ | 49½-53 | 51-54 | 55½-57 |
| 1955-56 | 50½-54 | 48-50 | 47½-48½ | 53-54 | 54-55 | 54-55 | 57½-58 | 61½-62 | 64-65 | 65-65½ | 65½-66 | 60-61 |
| 1956-57 | 50-52 | 43-44½ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (e) Frozen eviscerated hens, 12-14 pounds, New York City, first day of month 1/ | | | | | | | |
| 1952-53 | 57-59 | 56-59 | 56-58 | 56-59 | 56-58 | 54-57 | 54½-57 | 62-64 | 61-64 | 59-61 | 56-59 | 55-57 |
| 1953-54 | 56-57 | 58-60 | 59-60½ | 60-61½ | 60-61½ | 60-61½ | 59½-61½ | --- | --- | 51-53 | 45½-48 | 48-49½ |
| 1954-55 | 47-49 | 49½-51 | 51-53 | 48-51 | 48-51 | 48-50 | 48-50 | 51½-53½ | 51½-53½ | 50-52 | 48-49½ | 49½-51 |
| 1955-56 | 51-52½ | 52-54 | 50½-52 | 50-51 | 50-51 | 49½-51 | 50-51½ | 53½-54 | 52½-53½ | 47-48½ | 46-47 | 43½-44½ |
| 1956-57 | 44-44½ | 44-45 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (f) Live, Beltsville Small Whites, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and West Virginia, first day of month 1/ | | | | | | | |
| 1952-53 | 36-37 | 37-38 | 37-38 | 42 | 40½ | 42-43 | 42-43 | 38 | 35 | 33 | 32-33 | 33 |
| 1953-54 | 33-33½ | 36½ | 37½ | 37 | 35 | 37 | 33 | 30 | 30-31 | 27-29½ | 26-26½ | 27½-28 |
| 1954-55 | 29 | 31-32 | 32 | 28 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 31 | 31 | 30½-31 | 30-30½ | 30-30½ |
| 1955-56 | 30½-31 | 30-31½ | 28-28½ | 29½ | --- | 33 | 30-31 | 29-30 | 29 | 26½-27 | 26½ | 25-26 |
| 1956-57 | 25 | 25½-26 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (g) Ice-packed New York dressed, Belteville Small Whites, New York City, first day of month 1/ | | | | | | | |
| 1952-53 | 47½-48 | 47½-48 | 49-50 | 53½-54 | 52½-53 | 55½-56 | 51-52 | 48-49 | 43-44½ | 43-44 | 41½-42 | 42½-43 |
| 1953-54 | 41½-42 | 44-45 | 46½-47 | 47-48 | 44½-45 | 44½-45 | 42½-43 | 38½-39 | 36-37 | 36½-37 | 33½-34 | 35½-36 |
| 1954-55 | 36½-37 | 38½-39 | 39-40 | 37-38 | 36½-37 | 39½-40 | 39-40 | 38-38½ | 38½-39 | 39½-40 | 37-38 | 36-38½ |
| 1955-56 | 38½-39 | 38-39 | 38½-39 | 38-39 | 38-40 | 40½-42 | 40-41 | 36-37 | 33½-34 | 33-35 | 34½-35 | 34½-35 |
| 1956-57 | 32½-33 | 33-34 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (h) Live, heavy type toms, Iowa, first Friday of month 1/ | | | | | | | |
| 1952-53 | | | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 30 |
| 1953-54 | 30-30½ | 29-31½ | 30-31 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 24½ | 26 |
| 1954-55 | 24-24½ | 23-24 | 25-25½ | 20-23 | --- | 23½ | --- | 20-22 | --- | --- | 27 | 29-31 |
| 1955-56 | 30 | 26-27 | 28-28½ | --- | --- | --- | --- | 28-30½ | 28-30 | 28 | 29-30 | 25-25½ |
| 1956-57 | 24-25 | 23-23½ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (i) Live, heavy type hens, Iowa, first Friday of month 1/ | | | | | | | |
| 1952-53 | | | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 34½-35½ | 33-34 |
| 1953-54 | 34½-35½ | 38-38½ | 39-40 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 28 | 30½-30½ |
| 1954-55 | 29-30 | 32½-33 | 35-35½ | --- | 27½ | --- | --- | --- | --- | 32-33 | 30½-31½ | 34 |
| 1955-56 | 37 | 33 | 32-34 | | | | | 28-28½ | 27½-28 | 28 | 28½ | 26-26½ |
| 1956-57 | 27½-28 | 27 | | | | | | | | | | |

1/ Or first following day when quotation is available.

Table 17.- Turkeys raised and related data; available data, 1930 to date

| Year | Absolute numbers | | | Change from preceding year | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Number | | | Percent | | | |
| | Turkeys raised | Turkey-feed price ratio 1/ | Breeder hens on farms, Jan. 1 | Turkeys raised 2/ | Turkey-feed price ratio 1/ | Breeder hens on farms, Jan. 1 2/ | Turkeys raised 2/ | Turkey-feed price ratio 1/ | Farmers' intentions to raise turkeys | Breeder hens on farms, Jan. 1 2/ |
| | Millions | Pounds | Millions | Millions | Pounds | Millions | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| 1930 | 17 | 11.2 | | -1 | 1.9 | | -6 | 15 | | |
| 1931 | 18 | 10.7 | | 1 | -0.5 | | 5 | -4 | | |
| 1932 | 22 | 14.6 | | 4 | 3.9 | | 22 | 36 | | |
| 1933 | 23 | 11.7 | | 1 | -2.9 | | 4 | -20 | | |
| 1934 | 22 | 8.0 | | -2 | -3.7 | | -7 | -32 | | |
| 1935 | 21 | 7.6 | | -1 | -.4 | | -4 | -5 | | |
| 1936 | 28 | 12.2 | | 7 | 4.6 | | 34 | 61 | | |
| 1937 | 26 | 6.6 | 3.5 | -2 | -5.6 | | -8 | -46 | | |
| 1938 | 27 | 10.7 | 3.2 | 1 | 4.1 | -0.3 | 4 | 62 | 6 | -7 |
| 1939 | 34 | 12.5 | 3.9 | 7 | 1.8 | .7 | 25 | 17 | 27 | 21 |
| 1940 | 34 | 9.4 | 4.6 | 3/ | -3.1 | .7 | 1 | -25 | 5 | 18 |
| 1941 | 33 | 9.4 | 3.8 | -1 | 0 | -.8 | -4 | 0 | -3 | -16 |
| 1942 | 33 | 10.1 | 4.0 | 3/ | .7 | .1 | 3/ | 7 | 8 | 3 |
| 1943 | 32 | 12.4 | 3.9 | -1 | 2.3 | -.1 | -2 | 23 | 12 | -2 |
| 1944 | 35 | 11.3 | 4.2 | 3 | -1.1 | .3 | 10 | -9 | 2 | 8 |
| 1945 | 43 | 11.8 | 4.5 | 8 | .5 | .3 | 22 | 4 | 8 | 7 |
| 1946 | 40 | 11.1 | 4.8 | -3 | -.7 | .3 | -6 | -6 | -5 | 7 |
| 1947 | 34 | 10.2 | 3.8 | -6 | -.9 | -1.1 | -15 | -8 | -16 | -22 |
| 1948 | 32 | 7.7 | 2.5 | -2 | -2.5 | -1.2 | -7 | -25 | -18 | -33 |
| 1949 | 41 | 13.1 | 3.1 | 10 | 5.4 | .6 | 31 | 70 | 25 | 24 |
| 1950 4/ | 44 | 10.2 | 3.3 | 3 | -2.9 | .1 | 7 | -22 | 1 | 4 |
| 1951 4/ | 53 | 9.0 | 3.2 | 9 | -1.2 | -.1 | 20 | -12 | 1 | -2 |
| 1952 4/ | 62 | 9.2 | 3.7 | 9 | .2 | .5 | 17 | 2 | 11 | 15 |
| 1953 4/ | 5/ 60 | 8.2 | 6/ 3.2 | -3 | -1.0 | -.5 | -4 | -11 | -8 | -14 |
| 1954 4/ | 5/ 68 | 9.1 | 6/ 3.1 | 8 | .9 | .1 | 13 | 11 | 7 | -2 |
| 1955 7/ | 5/ 66 | 7.5 | 6/ 3.0 | -2 | -1.6 | -.1 | -3 | -18 | -4 | -3 |
| 1956 7/ | 76 | 9.0 | 6/ 3.2 | 11 | 1.5 | .2 | 16 | 20 | 16 | 7 |

1/ Weighted average of monthly ratios as follows: 1930-44, preceding October, 1; preceding November, 4; preceding December, 4; January, 1. 1945 to date, preceding October, 2; preceding November, 4; preceding December, 3; January, 1.
2/ Computed from unrounded data.
3/ Change smaller than 0.5.
4/ Revised.
5/ For breed break-down, see table 18 page 33.
6/ 1953: 2.692 million heavy and .470 million light hens; 1954: 2.438 and .657; 1955: 2.479 and .533; 1956: 2.719 and .493. 7/ Preliminary.

Table 18.- Turkeys for breeding: Farmers' intentions toward January 1 numbers, and actual numbers, 1956 and 1957

| State | Breeders on hand, Jan. 1, 1955 | Farmers' intentions for Jan. 1, 1956 1/ | Breeders on hand, January 1, 1956 | | Farmers' intentions for January 1, 1957 1/ | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | As reported | Percent of year earlier | Light breeds | Heavy breeds | |
| | | | | | | Heavy white | Bronze and other heavy |
| | Thou. | Pct. | Thou. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| | | | (a) Light breeds | | | | |
| N. Y. | 1 | 100 | 1 | 100 | 150 | | |
| Pa. | 19 | 104 | 9 | 47 | 96 | | |
| Ohio | 39 | 117 | 40 | 103 | 100 | | |
| Mich. | 8 | 45 | 4 | 50 | 100 | | |
| Wis. | 7 | 94 | 6 | 86 | 100 | | |
| Minn. | 50 | 130 | 65 | 130 | 80 | | |
| Iowa | 4 | 80 | 4 | 100 | 175 | | |
| Mo. | 43 | 94 | 38 | 88 | 70 | | |
| Va. | 98 | 94 | 98 | 100 | 85 | | |
| S. C. | 12 | 65 | 4 | 33 | 85 | | |
| Okla. | 6 | 133 | 7 | 117 | 85 | | |
| Tex. | 54 | 130 | 35 | 65 | 155 | | |
| Wash. | 10 | 60 | 6 | 60 | 71 | | |
| Oreg. | 23 | 91 | 17 | 74 | 102 | | |
| Calif. | 44 | 104 | 38 | 86 | 110 | | |
| Total | 418 | 107 | 372 | 89 | 97 | | |
| | | | (b) Heavy breeds | | | | |
| N. Y. | 46 | 100 | 41 | 89 | | 97 | 110 |
| Pa. | 49 | 100 | 54 | 110 | | 116 | 107 |
| Ohio | 100 | 107 | 116 | 116 | | 117 | 109 |
| Mich. | 65 | 87 | 62 | 95 | | 75 | 100 |
| Wis. | 49 | 116 | 56 | 114 | | 113 | 117 |
| Minn. | 205 | 116 | 238 | 116 | | 110 | 124 |
| Iowa | 86 | 118 | 96 | 112 | | 147 | 150 |
| Mo. | 122 | 105 | 144 | 118 | | 103 | 120 |
| Va. | 57 | 106 | 60 | 105 | | 150 | 110 |
| S. C. | 59 | 105 | 63 | 107 | | 100 | 90 |
| Okla. | 44 | 115 | 45 | 102 | | 120 | 115 |
| Tex. | 224 | 131 | 260 | 116 | | 150 | 125 |
| Wash. | 67 | 105 | 72 | 107 | | 77 | 93 |
| Oreg. | 187 | 107 | 214 | 114 | | 2/ | 115 |
| Calif. | 596 | 114 | 653 | 110 | | 110 | 115 |
| Total | 1,856 | 113 | 2,164 | 117 | | 120 | 115 |

1/ Farmers' October intentions to hold turkey breeders at beginning of following year as a percentage of holdings of year before.

2/ Not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Table 19.- Gross income from poultry and eggs, 1940 to date

| Year | Eggs | | Farm chickens | | Broilers in specialized enterprises (value of production) 2/ | Turkeys | | Other poultry | Totals 3/ | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Value of sales | Value of consumption on farms 1/ | Value of sales | Value of consumption on farms 1/ | | Value of sales | Value of consumption on farms 1/ | | Value of sales 4/ | Value of consumption on farms 1/ 4/ | Gross income 5/ |
| | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. |
| 1940 | 468 | 115 | 196 | 90 | 72 | 77 | 3 | 17 | 827 | 209 | 1,036 |
| 1941 | 663 | 144 | 261 | 107 | 103 | 98 | 3 | 21 | 1,143 | 256 | 1,400 |
| 1942 | 1,018 | 179 | 384 | 127 | 155 | 144 | 3 | 29 | 1,726 | 312 | 2,038 |
| 1943 | 1,446 | 222 | 688 | 164 | 238 | 158 | 4 | 48 | 2,574 | 394 | 2,968 |
| 1944 | 1,365 | 206 | 627 | 153 | 235 | 196 | 4 | 48 | 2,468 | 365 | 2,833 |
| 1945 | 1,518 | 233 | 677 | 175 | 327 | 241 | 4 | 58 | 2,817 | 417 | 3,233 |
| 1946 | 1,508 | 235 | 639 | 175 | 289 | 269 | 4 | 54 | 2,754 | 419 | 3,173 |
| 1947 | 1,813 | 265 | 568 | 159 | 302 | 232 | 4 | 47 | 2,957 | 432 | 3,389 |
| 1948 | 1,884 | 261 | 543 | 168 | 405 | 257 | 5 | 50 | 3,134 | 439 | 3,573 |
| 1949 | 1,857 | 246 | 497 | 147 | 443 | 263 | 4 | 55 | 3,110 | 401 | 3,511 |
| 1950 6/ | 1,579 | 194 | 413 | 124 | 533 | 266 | 4 | 52 | | | 3,165 |
| 1951 6/ | 2,062 | 235 | 447 | 133 | 689 | 347 | 4 | 63 | | | 3,982 |
| 1952 6/ | 1,801 | 201 | 362 | 111 | 756 | 352 | 4 | 62 | | | 3,649 |
| 1953 6/ | 2,073 | 216 | 350 | 103 | 786 | 336 | 4 | 60 | | | 3,928 |
| 1954 6/ | 1,627 | 168 | 253 | 80 | 747 | 331 | 4 | 58 | | | 3,267 |
| 1955 7/ | 1,746 | 176 | 229 | 81 | 834 | 326 | 3 | 55 | | | 3,450 |
| 1956 8/ | 1,945 | | 302 | | 830 | 356 | | | | | |

1/ Consumed in households of farm producers.
2/ Includes consumption in households of producers which is less than 1 percent of production.
3/ Obtained from unrounded figures.
4/ For eggs, farm chickens, turkeys, and other poultry.
5/ Value of sales plus home consumption.
6/ Revised.
7/ Preliminary.
8/ Estimated as of November.

Table 20.- Per capita civilian consumption of eggs, chicken, and turkey, 1935 to date, with projections for 1957, 1960, and 1975

| Year | Eggs | Poultry meat, ready-to-cook basis | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Chicken | | Turkey |
| | | Total | Percent from specialized broilers | |
| | Eggs | Lb. | Pct. | Lb. |
| 1935 | 276 | 12.9 | 5 | 1.7 |
| 1936 | 285 | 13.5 | 6 | 2.2 |
| 1937 | 304 | 13.4 | 8 | 2.2 |
| 1938 | 306 | 12.5 | 10 | 2.2 |
| 1939 | 309 | 13.9 | 11 | 2.4 |
| 1940 | 314 | 13.9 | 14 | 2.9 |
| 1941 | 307 | 15.2 | 18 | 2.9 |
| 1942 | 314 | 17.4 | 18 | 3.0 |
| 1943 | 342 | 22.7 | 18 | 2.7 |
| 1944 | 350 | 20.1 | 19 | 2.7 |
| 1945 | 397 | 21.3 | 23 | 3.4 |
| 1946 | 374 | 19.1 | 21 | 3.7 |
| 1947 | 378 | 17.9 | 24 | 3.5 |
| 1948 | 384 | 18.1 | 30 | 3.0 |
| 1949 | 378 | 19.4 | 36 | 3.2 |
| 1950 | 384 | 20.3 | 42 | 4.0 |
| 1951 | 387 | 21.4 | 48 | 4.4 |
| 1952 | 385 | 21.8 | 53 | 4.6 |
| 1953 | 374 | 21.6 | 56 | 4.7 |
| 1954 | 371 | 22.5 | 60 | 5.2 |
| 1955 | 366 | 20.9 | 64 | 5.0 |
| 1956 | 365 | 23.4 | 69 | 5.4 |
| 1957 | 363 | 24.6 | 70 | 5.8 |
| 1960 1/ | 380 | 26.- | | 6.0 |
| 1975 1/ | 400 | 29.- | | 6.5 |

1/ In view of indications regarding the 1956 and 1957 turkey and broiler crops and the prices at which current output is clearing the market, the turkey and chicken entries have been raised from those indicated for 1960 and 1975 in Daly, op. cit. Also, the 1975 egg and chicken figures have been rounded from those used by Daly.

Table 21.- Eggs: Projections of production, consumption, and related factors, 1960 and 1975, compared with recent years

| Item | Unit | 1945 | 1950 | 1955 | 1956, partly estimated | 1960, projected | 1975, projected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Population, civilian and military | Mil. | 140 | 152 | 165 | 168 | 179 | 215 |
| Civilian per capita consumption | Eggs | 397 | 384 | 366 | 365 | 380 | 400 |
| Total consumption, including military | Mil. doz. | 4,912 | 4,946 | 5,108 | 5,177 | 5,700 | 7,200 |
| Requirements for hatching | Mil. doz. | 229 | 200 | 228 | 260 | 285 | 340 |
| Net exports and estimated shipments | Mil. doz. | 15 | 10 | 63 | 63 | 85 | 85 |
| Total production (through 1956) or production requirement (1960, 1975)1/ | Mil. doz. | 5,154 | 5,404 | 5,403 | 5,500 | 6,070 | 7,625 |
| Total production as a percent of production on farms | Pct. | 110 | 110 | 109 | 108 | 105 | 105 |
| Production on farms | Mil. doz. | 4,685 | 4,913 | 4,957 | 5,081 | 5,780 | 7,250 |
| Annual egg production per hen and pullet on hand at beginning of year | Eggs | 119 | 139 | 161 | 170 | 180 | 200 |
| Hens and pullets on farms, Jan. 1 | Mil. | 474 | 424 | 369 | 360 | 385 | 435 |
| Proportion of pullets in Jan. 1 flock | Pct. | 64 | 68 | 70 | 66 | 70 | 70 |
| Number of pullets in Jan. 1 flock | Mil. | 301 | 287 | 257 | 238 | 270 | 300 |
| Number of chickens raised to yield required number of pullets | Mil. | 832 | 705 | 540 | 462 | 490 | 500 |
| Supply of byproduct chicken meat: | | | | | | | |
| Sales plus home consumption of farm chickens | Mil. lb. live | 3,285 | 2,424 | 1,672 | 1,739 | 1,820 | 1,800 |
| Per dozen eggs produced | Lb. | .70 | .49 | .34 | .34 | .30 | .25 |

1/ Through 1956, total may not correspond with sum of components because of stock changes.

Table 22.- Poultry meat: Projections of production, consumption, and related factors, 1960 and 1975, compared with recent years

| Item | Unit | 1945 | 1950 | 1955 | 1956, partly estimated | 1960, projected | 1975, projected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | (a) Chickens, including broilers | | | | | |
| Population, civilian and military | Mil. | 140 | 152 | 165 | 168 | 179 | 215 |
| Civilian per capita consumption | Lb. r-t-c | 21.3 | 20.3 | 20.9 | 23.4 | 2/26.- | 2/29.- |
| Domestic consumption, including military | Mil. lb. r-t-c | 3,123 | 3,162 | 3,524 | 4,000 | 4,700 | 6,250 |
| Net exports and estimated shipments | Mil. lb. r-t-c | -10 | 10 | 45 | 53 | 70 | 70 |
| Consumption plus net exports and shipments | Mil. lb. r-t-c | 3,113 | 3,172 | 3,569 | 4,055 | 4,770 | 6,320 |
| Do. | Mil. lb. live, equiv. | 4,547 | 4,608 | 5,152 | 5,846 | 6,800 | 9,030 |
| Supply provided by: 1/ | | | | | | | |
| Farm chickens | Mil. lb. live | 3,285 | 2,424 | 1,672 | 1,739 | 1,820 | 1,800 |
| Backyard chickens | do. | 328 | 242 | 150 | 139 | 90 | 90 |
| Balance, to be provided by broilers | do. | 1,107 | 1,945 | 3,309 | 4,063 | 4,890 | 7,140 |
| Number of broilers raised | Mil. head | 366 | 631 | 1,078 | 1,325 | 1,630 | 2,380 |
| | | (b) Turkeys | | | | | |
| Civilian per capita consumption | Lb. r-t-c | 3.4 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 5.4 | 2/6.0 | 2/6.5 |
| Domestic consumption, including military | Mil. lb. r-t-c | 494 | 632 | 843 | 936 | 1,075 | 1,400 |
| Net exports | do. | -4 | --- | --- | --- | 10 | 10 |
| Consumption plus net exports | Mil. lb. r-t-c | 490 | 632 | 843 | 936 | 1,085 | 1,410 |
| Do. | Mil. lb. live, equiv. | 653 | 843 | 1,124 | 1,248 | 1,360 | 1,765 |
| Turkeys raised | Mil. head | 42.9 | 44.4 | 65.6 | 76.3 | 85.- | 109.- |
| Average weight per head | Lb. | 17.4 | 18.6 | 16.7 | 16.7 | 16.5 | 16.5 |
| Live weight of turkeys raised | Mil. lb. | 746 | 826 | 1,095 | 1,275 | 1,400 | 1,800 |
| Live weight of turkeys slaughtered | Mil. lb. | 727 | 820 | 1,091 | 1,269 | 1,360 | 1,765 |

1/ Supply may differ from consumption plus exports because of stock changes.
2/ See footnote to table
r-t-c = ready-to-cook (eviscerated) basis.

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